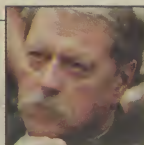
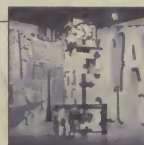


**Top U.S. health posts filled**  
*Bush nominates Elias Zerhouni to head NIH and Richard Carmona for surgeon general.*  
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**Continuing the spin**  
*Robert Noel speaks out after his conviction.*  
**page 13**



**Coast-to-coast culture**  
*Bay Area artists in New York's Whitney Biennial.*  
**see Arts section**



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 32 • No. 14 • 4 April 2002

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

## Ex-health commish in hot water again

**Court orders \$5 million payment for alleged HIV transmission**

**by Katie Zak Szymanski**

**F**ormer city Health Commissioner Ron Hill faced more legal problems last week when a San Francisco Superior Court commissioner ordered him to pay \$5 million to a recent ex-lover for allegedly infecting him with HIV.

Thomas Lister, 36, was awarded general and punitive damages for allegedly contracting HIV from Hill, whom he dated from March through August of 2000.

Hill, 44, was an openly HIV-positive member of the city's Health Commission from the time he was appointed by Mayor Willie Brown in 1997 up to his resignation in October 2000 when he was arrested for allegedly writing bad checks.

Lister, however, claimed that Hill told him he was negative when the two men met. His lawsuit said he was monogamous during his relationship with Hill, and that he tested positive the same month that Hill's arrest and HIV status were widely reported in the media.

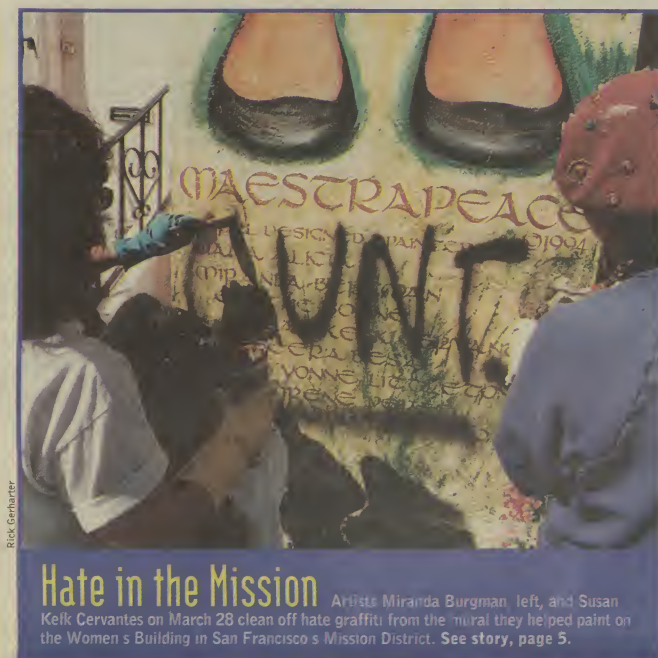
The amount won by Lister is one of the nation's highest ever awarded as a result of an HIV/AIDS transmission claim. But this civil ruling will likely have no effect on related case law, according to Bill Hirsh, executive director of the AIDS Legal Referral Panel, because it was handed down through a default judgment, the result of Hill not contesting the case.

"A default judgment just means Mr. Hill decided, for whatever reason, not to defend this lawsuit; it doesn't tell us conclusively what happened in this case," said Hirsh. "It's very difficult to prove intent in HIV transmission, and this case is of limited value for anything."

The difficulty in proving intentional HIV transmission should help Hill as he awaits a decision on whether the San Francisco District Attorney's office will press criminal charges on behalf of Lister. It is a felony in California to knowingly infect a person with HIV.

Lister had tried to pursue a criminal case last year but was informed by the DA's office that prosecutors did not have enough evidence to prove intent. Although the civil ruling may have provoked a second look at criminal charges, it likely won't help to secure proof of intent, according to

**page 15 ►**



## Hate in the Mission

Artists Miranda Burgman, left, and Susan Kelk Cervantes on March 28 clean off hate graffiti from the mural they helped paint on the Women's Building in San Francisco's Mission District. **See story, page 5.**

## Day of Silence draws attention to LGBT abuse in schools

**by Katie Zak Szymanski**

**S**ometimes the best way to stand up for your rights is not to say anything at all.

The seventh annual "Day of Silence," sponsored by the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network, will be observed by students and held at schools across the country on Wednesday, April 10.

First conceived in 1996 by an 18-year-old student writing a paper on nonviolent protest, the event now involves more than 1,200 learning institutions and an estimated tens of thousands of students and teachers who will voluntarily refuse to speak for one day in order to draw attention to the LGBT struggle taking place in America's schools.

Last year's event, according to GLSEN spokesman Chadwick Bovée, drew just 200 participating schools by comparison. But the nationwide fight has intensified over the right to assembly and free expression on campus without prejudice or violence, and many LGBT people, as well as their supporters, have heeded the call to action.

"The Day of Silence is addressing the needs of countless young people who want to end anti-gay bias in their schools," according to GLSEN's deputy executive director Eliza Byard, who noted that the organization's most recent national survey showed that four out of five LGBT students have encountered verbal, sexual, or physical harassment in school. The survey also reported that faculty and staff failed to intervene in most anti-gay incidents, and that 68.6 percent of gay students, and 89.5

percent of transgenders, felt unsafe at school.

Day of Silence participants hope to draw attention to these figures by mimicking the silence felt by LGBT students and staff in schools. "Please understand my reasons for not speaking today," reads a card that participants will distribute throughout the day. "My

deliberate silence echoes that silence which is caused by harassment, prejudice, and discrimination. Think about the voices you're not hearing today. What are you going to do to end the silence?"

Bay Area participating schools include Berkeley Alternative High School, Burlingame High School, City College of San Francisco, Hayward High School, Mountain View High School, North Bay Orinda School, Novato High School, San Leandro High School, San Mateo High School, University of California, Berkeley, and several other high schools in the San Francisco area.

Nationally, students from Nebraska plan to form a human chain around the state Capitol in Lincoln; LGBT students from Fort Lauderdale will host a "Breaking the Silence" rally; and a school in Albany, New York will designate a "silent lunch" period.

"We're thrilled by the extraordinary level of commitment and creativity we're seeing from young people across the country," said a statement from Chris Tuttle, national student organizer.

It's not too late to participate in the national Day of Silence. Interested students and teachers should visit [www.dayofsilence.org](http://www.dayofsilence.org) for information and for a contact list of student organizers around the country. ►



GLSEN'S Eliza Byard

## Migden announces grant to AIDS agency

**by Matthew S. Bajko**

**I**n January, the future looked bleak for Positive Resource Center.

At the time, the nonprofit agency announced it could close this year due to a budget crisis. Several employees received pink slips and a search was on for a new executive director after Ken Bukowski resigned his post.

But hope springs anew at the AIDS agency that it will survive its current fiscal problems. In addition to countless fundraisers and donations from community members during the last three months, PRC has received a cash infusion from the state.

At the request of Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco) Governor Gray Davis has directed a grant of \$150,000 through the Employment Development Department to the agency.

"In terms of the agency, basically we are overjoyed because it has taken away the threat of having to close our doors," said Mairi McKeever, the agency's interim executive director. "It has helped us to meet our goals in March to raise \$85,000. With approval of that contract, we essentially made that goal."

As to why she pushed for PRC to receive the funds, Migden said simply, "They need them. They are a terribly important community resource."

While the money is only a one-time funding source, Migden said the funds will allow PRC time to find a solution to its problems.

"They called our office in a state of desperation and we are pleased they asked us to lend a hand," Migden told the *Bay Area Reporter* in an interview Monday, April 1. "This will give PRC's board and staff some additional breathing room and a little flexibility."

The funds will allow PRC to continue providing people living with HIV/AIDS numerous employment services. Thousands of HIV-positive clients have turned to PRC over the last 15 years for free access to vocational counseling, computer training, job search assistance, micro-enterprise development assistance, legal rights and credit repair workshops, job placement, and support groups for people entering or reentering the workplace. "We are thrilled and delighted that the state and the governor are recognizing the valuable work of PRC," said Mark Murphy, president of PRC's board of directors.

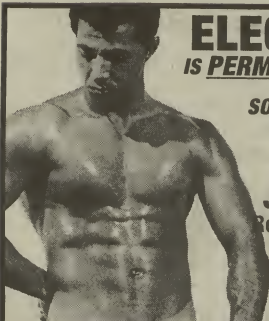
The agency's budget problems began last year when it learned its application to reapply for a \$735,000 U.S. Department of Education grant had been denied. In January, PRC turned to the community to raise \$175,000 by March in order to stabilize its first quarter cash flow and pay employees.

**page 15 ►**



Carole Migden





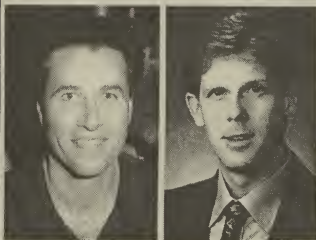
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## HIV treatment expert coming to SF

by Cynthia Laird

**T**he ad for an upcoming lecture for people living with HIV/AIDS reads, "Sick and tired of being sick and tired?" and that about sums up the approach that Lark Lands, Ph.D. brings to her audiences. Lands, an HIV treatment expert, will be in San Francisco Wednesday, April 10 to talk about her many tips on countering or preventing the many side effects associated with HIV/AIDS medications.

In an interview last week with the *Bay Area Reporter*, Lands, who's the science editor for *Poz* magazine, spoke about the issue of medication side effects and said she hopes interested people will attend the free lecture.

"I put together an integrated approach," Lands said. "I think a lot of people are living longer [with HIV] but are living miserably with it. For people on drugs there are terrible side effects."

Some of those include body distortions, cardiac concerns, diarrhea, fatigue, gas and bloating, neuropathy, and liver toxicity.

Many times, Lands said, doctors simply tell their patients to "live with" the side effects.

"What I want to say is ignore them," Lands said. "There is an astonishing number of people with HIV living with chronic pain."

Lands said that she uses a lot of humor in her presentations, such as when she talks about "stinky gas." In terms of the gas and bloating, Lands suggests that if the medication (usually protease inhibitors) can't be discontinued, Dennis Rosa-Re, a Florida physician with a large HIV practice, has found that taking pancreatic enzymes can often eliminate the problem.

Some side effects can be controlled or eliminated with supplements. "In many people, vitamin B-12 really helps with fatigue," she noted.

tional advisory board.

Azure Wellness System earlier this year launched the first line of nutritional supplements specifically designed for people living with HIV. The products are designed to significantly reduce the number of pills people need to take, lower the costs, and make it more convenient for people living with HIV to get proper supplements through monthly home delivery.

"Many people with HIV don't even know that they should be taking nutritional supplements to help their body cope with the

**"There is an astonishing number of people with HIV living with chronic pain."**

Lands maintains that until recently, there was not a lot of research into drug side effects, but that is changing. "There's been a huge amount of attention to drug side effects the last couple of years," she said.

Lands's presentation is being sponsored by Project Inform, Serono, Damron, and Azure Wellness System. Dr. Marge Poscher, who formerly had a HIV practice in San Francisco, will introduce Lands. Poscher is also chair of the Azure Wellness System's nutri-

stress of disease," Poscher said.

People can check out Azure's Web site at [www.azurewellness.com](http://www.azurewellness.com) for more information. Lands also has a Web site with a lot of information at [www.larklands.net](http://www.larklands.net).

Lands's April 10 presentation takes place at 6:30 p.m. at the University of California, San Francisco's Laurel Heights Conference Center Auditorium, 3333 California Street at Laurel. There will be free giveaways, free door prizes, and free food. For more information, call 1-888-874-9979. ▼

## AT&T LGBT group offers scholarships

by Cynthia Laird

**F**or the sixth consecutive year, LEAGUE at AT&T Foundation, the telecommunications company's LGBT employee group, is set to award its annual academic scholarships. Applications are being accepted through Friday, April 19.

Formed in 1987 after a handful of AT&T employees at the Denver facility returned from the March on Washington inspired, energized, and convinced that they could help change part of their world, LEAGUE now has chapters across the country and has become the visible representative of more than 15,000 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender AT&T employees.

LEAGUE's scholarship program is one of the ways that employees give back to the community. The LEAGUE Foundation Scholarship Fund is a separate nonprofit organization, and is funded by external gifts, member donations, and LEAGUE fundraising activities.

For this year's scholarships, ap-

plicants should graduate high school in 2002, identify themselves as LGBT, achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, be actively and substantially involved in community service, and have been accepted to an accredited college or university in the U.S.

Scholarships currently open for application are the Matthew Shepard Memorial Scholarship (name used with permission of the Shepard family), named for the Wyoming college student murdered in 1998 for his sexual orientation. The Shepard scholarship is awarded to a student who has demonstrated leadership in

promoting diversity and understanding in the community.

The other scholarship currently open is the LEAGUE at AT&T Foundation Scholarship. The scholarships range between \$1,000 and \$1,500, according to LEAGUE's Web site.

Interested students can get more information and scholarship applications at [www.LEAGUE-at-t.org/foundation](http://www.LEAGUE-at-t.org/foundation).

Those interested in donating to the scholarship fund can make checks payable to LEAGUE at AT&T Foundation, P.O. Box 57237, Washington, D.C. 20037, or check out the Web site for other payment options. ▼

### Correction

Last week's article, "San Mateo seeks medical marijuana volunteers," neglected to mention that after volunteers smoke medical-grade cannabis under staff supervision in the "specially designed room," all smoking will then be done in the patient's home. This is a feasibility study of medical marijuana furnished on an outpatient basis, with the approval of local and federal authorities. For more information about the study, call the San Mateo County Health Center at (650) 573-2748. We regret the error.

## Gay Sperm Donors Wanted by Lesbians

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## Sunday in the park



Sister Roma shows off her Easter attire as the crowd behind her in San Francisco's Dolores Park enjoys the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence's annual Easter party March 31. Organizers estimated attendance in the thousands, as people enjoyed entertainment, contests, and warm weather.

## City promotes HIV/STD testing among gay men

by Matthew S. Bajko

A twist on the time honored tradition of spring house cleaning, San Francisco health officials are asking gay and bisexual men to undergo a more personal cleansing this month.

With syphilis and other sexually transmitted diseases increasing significantly among gay and bisexual men, according to health officials, several city agencies are launching a new program asking sexually active men to get tested for STDs.

"Other STDs have fallen off gay men's radar because of HIV. I think a lot of people may not be aware that this is also an important health concern for gay men," said Steve Gibson, program director at the Stop AIDS Project.

Dubbed Castrogays' Spring Cleaning, the program will consist of an outreach campaign to promote the availability of STD and HIV tests through the health department's mobile unit and at the City Clinic. By offering free coffee, book discounts, and even free passes to sex clubs, officials hope to encourage as many men as possible to get tested.

"The reality is syphilis numbers and gonorrhea numbers have gone up," said Steve Tierney, director of HIV prevention for the Department of Public Health. "This is taking the illness very seriously but not trying to be alarmist about it. It is a way of doing it without all those ads that make people think death is waiting outside the front door."

After years of decline, San Francisco health officials last year saw a spike in the rates of syphilis among gay and bisexual men, with 153 men who have sex with men contracting early syphilis. With early syphilis, the person contracted the disease within the last year and may or may not show signs.

It is too early to tell how many gay and bisexual men will contract syphilis this year, although some estimate the number could reach 250 cases. Already the city has reported 67 cases of early syphilis during January and February, with MSMs accounting for most of those cases. In 2001, the city only registered 18 cases during the same time frame.

"While the number is lower than in the early 1980s, certainly it is the wrong direction for the city when we are spending a fair amount of resources on promoting safe sex, healthy lifestyles, and trying to stop the spread of STDs," said Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, the city's STD control chief.

Outreach workers will focus on the Castro and South of Market areas to promote the latest health initiative. Advertising and posters will also be used to attract the attention of gay and bisexual men.

Along with the push for increased testing, the health department has taken several other steps in recent weeks to combat the rise in STDs. Those steps include:

- The Health Commission awarded a \$100,575 grant to a Bay Area company called ISIS, Internet Sexual Information Services, to create a partnership with Inter-

net service providers to do banner advertising outreach over online chat rooms and bulletin boards.

- The health department sent a letter to physicians asking them to test all sexually active gay men for STDs twice a year.

- The city is requiring workers at sex clubs and adult bookstores to undergo training sessions on safe sex. They are also being asked to enforce a "no unprotected anal or vaginal intercourse" policy.

The new spring cleaning campaign actually came out of a meeting with sex club owners earlier this year. Larry Hanbrook, a community health specialist with the city, commended the sex clubs for offering free passes as an incentive because it targets some of the most at-risk men.

"A good proportion of our recent syphilis cases have mentioned they go to the sex clubs to find partners," said Hanbrook.

Club owners are printing up and distributing the passes, which clients can have stamped after getting tested. The stamped pass will allow them free entry to the club.

"It is a unique and interesting collaboration. They realize it is to their benefit as well to have healthy clientele," said Hanbrook.

In the end, health officials hope the spring cleaning program promotes the idea that STD testing should be a routine part of gay and bisexual men's health care regimens.

"It is sort of like going to the dentist twice a year," said Hanbrook. "It should not be a big deal. It is just something you do to take care of your health." ▼

## Nominate your AIDS heroes by April 15

by Katie Zak Szymanski

Monday, April 15 is the last day to nominate community activists, caregivers, and fundraisers for the annual "AIDS Hero Awards," an honor that acknowledges the contributions made by people living with HIV/AIDS, individuals impacted by AIDS, and local organizations.

A part of the International AIDS Candlelight Vigil, the awards are named for several deceased Bay Area AIDS activists, including Joan Baker, Bobbi Camp-

bell, Tomas Fabregas, Mariam Farooq, John Lorenzini, Brownie Mary, and Terry Sutton. Recognizing people with HIV/AIDS is a priority for the awards, but having HIV is not a requirement. Award winners traditionally include people or groups who have significantly contributed to the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Nomination packets should include the name and contact information of the person making the nomination; a description of how the nominee has responded to the AIDS pandemic; whether the person is openly HIV-positive; letters

of support from individuals or organizations; and other materials to assist in the selection process.

Nominations must be received by 5 p.m. on April 15, and should be sent to 584 Castro Street #415, San Francisco, CA 94114. Nominations may also be faxed to (415) 621-5592.

Award winners will receive their honors in a special ceremony on May 2 and will be asked to lead the candlelight procession down Market Street on Sunday, May 19.

For more information, call (415) 331-1500 or e-mail [Info@AIDSCandlelightVigil.org](mailto:Info@AIDSCandlelightVigil.org). ▼



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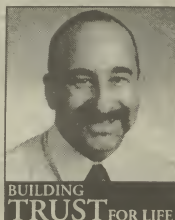
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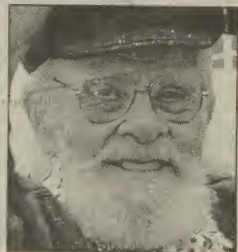


# Harry Hay's 90th Sun.

by Katie Zak Szymanski

He has been called the father of the gay rights movement, and this weekend local LGBT activists are coming together to throw a party for the San Francisco legend in honor of his birthday. Harry Hay, who in 1950 founded the first successful gay group, the Mattachine Society, turns 90 years old on April 7.

Hay's birthday celebration will take place this Sunday from 2-5 p.m. at the LGBT Community Center at 1800 Market Street. The event will feature music, speakers, surprise guests, food and beverages. Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammi-ano, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Blackberri, and fellow Mattachine member Jim Gruber are just a few of the well-known community members who are scheduled to make an appearance. And proclamations will be presented from the



Harry Hay in 1999

San Francisco Labor Council and the California state Senate.

Hay, who previously lived in Southern California, remained in San Francisco following his appearance as a grand marshal in the 1999 Pride Parade. He has had some health problems since then, and friends have been caring for Hay and his longtime partner, John Burnside.

Hay's commitment to human

dignity and progressive politics goes back more than 70 years, from his involvement in the labor movement in the 1930s; to the founding of the Mattachine Society and his subsequent proposal that gays and lesbians were a distinct cultural and political minority group; to his organizing the Radical Faeries in the 1970s. He has been the subject of a biography, has published a collection of writing entitled *Radically Gay*, and will be portrayed in the biographical film, *Hope Along the Wind*, to be broadcast on PBS later this year.

A suggested donation is \$10-\$100 with no one turned away for lack of funds. All proceeds will go to the Harry Hay care taking fund. The event is co-sponsored by The Friends of Harry and John, the San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Parade and Celebration Committee, and Rainbow Adult Community Housing. For more information call (415) 695-8259. ▼

# LGBT and women's groups hit by hatred

by Katie Zak Szymanski

March 27 was shaping up like any other day until employees of Community United Against Violence, Community Thrift, and the Women's Building discovered that their buildings had been vandalized with anti-Arab and other hateful messages.

Occurring sometime during the evening of March 26, the vandalism, in the form of black spray paint, declared, "Kill Arabs" on the Women's Building; "Die sand niggers" and "Dead Arabs=Peace" near CUAV; and "Bomb Arabs" on the side of Community Thrift directly across from the Mission Police Station. At the Women's Building the graffiti vandals also targeted lesbian and queer causes, painting "Cunts" on the building's side mural and strategically striking out AIDS activists and people of color that are painted as part of a community scene.

"As this shows, racism and misogyny go hand in hand," said Miranda Bergman, a women's building muralist, at a March 28 press conference in front of the building's vandalism.

There are no known suspects, although a profile has been submitted to police that rules out adolescent pranksters and focuses more on adults who are familiar

with the organizations targeted. Criminal charges will be pursued against the perpetrator(s) if caught.

The fact that both CUAV and the Women's Building were hit, according to Tina D'Elia, hate violence survivor program director at CUAV, has led the organizations to believe that this was no random act, and was perpetrated by someone "in the know" about the groups' politics. Both the Women's Building and CUAV have taken an active stand against anti-Arab and anti-Muslim bigotry. Community Thrift was more likely vandalized for its mural, a wall that is part of the Clarion Alley Mural Project that depicts U.S. fighter planes.

"We'll be painting over the hate as soon as possible," Corey Ruda, executive director of Community Thrift, told the *Bay Area Reporter* last week. "The ignorant words will be gone but the ignorant folks that wrote them won't be. I wish we could also paint over them."

Community Thrift gives to a variety of charities, including those that help immigrants and many with a leftist political slant, but Ruda did not seem to think his building was a specific target.

The purposeful vandalism joins the growing number of more than 100 hate crimes documented in the Bay Area by the American Arab Anti-Discrimina-

tion Committee since September 11, 2001. Nationally, there have been 1,717 cases of hate crimes against Arabs, Muslims, South/Central/West Asians, North Africans, and anyone perceived to be from these communities. The Council on American Muslim Relations has reported 372 public harassment incidents, 289 physical assaults, and 11 murders.

A representative of Women Against Rape, which is a tenant of the Women's Building, blamed anti-Arab sentiment on the media's portrayal of Arabs as "terrorists," particularly in the Palestine-Israel conflict, despite the fact that it is Israel that has killed more than 1,000 people and has been condemned by the United Nations for illegally occupying Palestine. Palestinian suicide bombers have also not helped the Arab image, as the death toll on both sides continues to climb.

D'Elia said that CUAV will continue to emphasize that the vandalism was not only anti-Arab, but anti-woman, anti-immigrant, and anti-LGBTQ. She also said that the hatred should not deter people from taking a political stand against racial profiling, foreign policy, or anything else with which they take issue.

"Our message is, continue to come out and support events," said D'Elia, "but don't walk home alone." ▼

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## OPEN FORUM

## Hate rears its ugly head

These are dangerous times. Tension is mounting in this country as fighting rages in the Middle East while the U.S. continues to fight the war on terrorism. Increasingly, both sides in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict have stepped up the violence as more suicide bombings have occurred and Israeli troops have moved into Bethlehem. Most of us watch with horror, sadness, and the sinking feeling that comes with an inability to end the violence. There are no easy answers.

There is also no excuse for the violence that occurred in San Francisco last week as vandals struck the Women's Building, Community United Against Violence, and the Community Thrift shop. All three organizations were victims of hate graffiti, which included anti-Arab messages, disparaging phrases aimed at women, and the striking out of AIDS activists and people of color depicted in some of the buildings' murals. While the graffiti has been cleaned up, in the words of Community Thrift's Corey Ruda, "The ignorant folks that wrote them won't be."

Since September 11, hundreds of hate crimes have been documented in the Bay Area, known as one of the more tolerant places in the country. Many of the documented cases show that anti-Arab and anti-Muslim sentiment is present here, just as it is in other parts of the nation. When hate hits close to home, as it did last week, it leaves initial feelings of fear and helplessness. Those feelings must be overcome, however, otherwise those who perpetrated the acts will have won; and that cannot be allowed to happen.

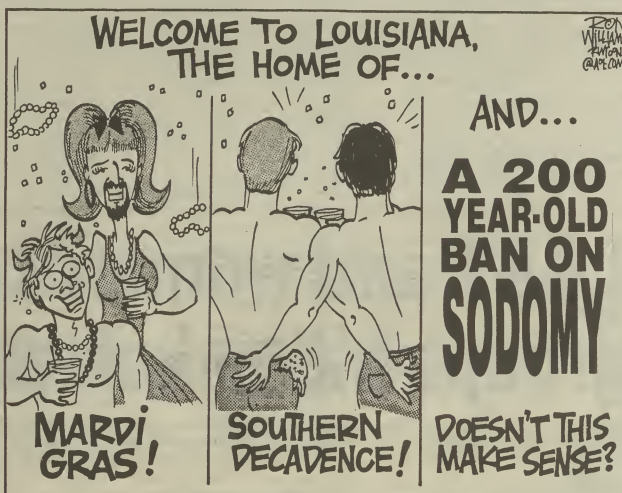
We in the LGBT community can relate to the fear felt in the wake of hatred, because we have been targets too. Last month, an exhibit at the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California brought to life Anita Bryant's 1977 crusade against gays; one of the turning points in our fight for

equal rights. And, now, 25 years later, at a time when President Bush is calling on all Americans to unite in the face of possible terrorist attacks, conservative Republicans continue to issue anti-gay diatribes attacking us on issues such as adoption and marriage. Other federal officials have said we are unequal in the eyes of the Bush administration, illustrated by the fact that LGBT survivors of those killed September 11 have been denied their share of federal compensation. And on top of all this, some ignorant person or people decides to deface murals on public buildings

in San Francisco. It was a misguided effort that has, however, succeeded in bringing people together: at a news conference last week, representatives of the defaced buildings were united in continuing their missions.

Acts of hate, whether actual physical violence or the physical defacing of buildings, will not deter our community from working with others to foster dialogue as the violence overseas continues. We condemn last week's pathetic attempt to fan the fires of hate against Arabs, gays, women, and people living with AIDS. ▼

Editorial



## Where were you when HIV prevention died?

by Richard Elovich

Leading gay researcher Tom Coates suggests that "perhaps we should just stop" HIV prevention. Gay columnists from Dan Savage to "Independent Gay Forum" members Andrew Sullivan and Paul Varnell give us various versions of throwing in the towel on the CDC and HIV education. "Gay activists" Michael Petrelis and David Pasquarelli call for defunding of AIDS programs, and feed HIV prevention workshop titles to conservative congressional staffers who launch an audit by the federal inspector general. Gay community debate erupts – but over bail and jail for Petrelis and Pasquarelli. The far more pressing question – will the gay community be asleep at the switch while HIV prevention gets gutted? – is going unanswered.

Calls to defund HIV prevention get so much ink in part because they speak to the mixed feelings many Americans – including gay Americans – feel about something as powerful and complicated as sex. Sex is often split off, regarded as something to be done but not talked about. Parents and conservatives cling to abstinence messages that make them feel comfortable, leaving their kids to deal with messier realities. Gay men are given slogans about condom use, without a forum for discussion of pleasure or partnering. Homosexually active black men who don't identify as gay are often given nothing at all, labeled as "unreachable" or "pathological" in spite of the fact that their rates of risk behavior are often the same as those of white gay men.

The new alliance of gay gadflies, conservative politicians, and columnists critical of HIV prevention do not propose solutions to these problems. Saying we should defund HIV prevention, or not saying anything as those arguments are made, accepts the ob-

scene rates of HIV among young homosexually active black men – one in three infected by age 29. Forcing educators to waste time on old arguments about sexual explicitness means missing the chance to urge them toward new approaches to Internet sex and STD education. Shutting down discussions of gay sexuality at AIDS organizations means leaving the field entirely to marketers more concerned with product placement than HIV prevention: pharmaceutical companies selling pills through glossy images, corporations using gay magazines to peddle style and celebrity, and sex-industry entrepreneurs squeezing cash out of subcultures.

As vastly higher rates of HIV infection among black men clearly demonstrate, the key to understanding HIV transmission in 2002 is likely less about how many times gay men use condoms and more about sexual decision making, networks, and patterns of partnering. This means we need more complex and nuanced prevention interventions, not a retreat. At a time when AIDS and gay organizations ought to be shifting from latex education to sex education, from an individual to a relational approach, it is both appropriate but essential that we have workshops, summits, and other places where men can talk about things like how we choose sexual partners, what feels good, and what we are looking for. HIV prevention cannot just be about sex acts with a condom. It has to be about sex lives as we live them.

So where is our collective response when the inspector general calls for a full audit of federally-funded HIV prevention, or homophobia and right-winger Tom Coburn is appointed to chair the president's AIDS advisory council? In 1987, when Jesse Helms waved safer sex materials and banned CDC

funding for anything that "encouraged homosexuality," we were enraged. We went to court, we formed ACT UP, and we said "silence=death." In communities distrustful of institutions, heroes, and leaders, HIV prevention – including promotion of safer sex in the face of homophobia – was a historic achievement.

Now, precisely at the time that we need to create new safer sex education, we are sitting back and watching it slip away. This time, though, the culprits are not just homophobic politicians but gay naysayers themselves. They are helped by community indifference, and the media's tendency to repeat the story that gay men are "at it again," without adding additional insight.

Ambivalence about sex makes strange bedfellows. But gay and African American communities, especially, should be wary of demands for sanitized sex education or calls for proof of efficacy in what remains one of the most complex and underexplored aspects of our lives, regardless of our sexuality. What we need now is not safe safer sex education. What we need now is not so-called gay activists urging conservative politicians to audit how we talk about sexual pleasure. What we need is engagement, across various communities, in the incredibly important dialogue about how HIV prevention might open honest discussion about sexuality rather than shutting it down. The last 20 years of history, certainly, makes the lesson clear. The silences imposed by pro-abstinence, sex-negative conservatism have already cost too many lives. ▼

Guest Opinion

Richard Elovich is the former director of HIV prevention at Gay Men's Health Crisis



## LETTERS

## Hysteria around 'p' word

I was interested in David Miller's comments on adult-youth relationships (*Mailstrom*, March 21). There is much hysteria around the issue of pedophilia. I think a lot of us rush to condemn all such relationships regardless of their nature or the experience of the individual. I am one of those guys who sought sex with men as a youth and I do not have any unpleasant memories of the experiences, except of course for the Catholic guilt thing. (But I got out of the confessional every time I masturbated and found touching myself during urination to be sinful.) At 56, I do not have, nor have I ever had, any attraction for children. My sexual interest is still focused on the dad-dies of the world.

While sex between adults and underage youth is generally a bad idea because of the legal implications, I have often wondered why there is no visible, concrete evidence of the psychological harm to boys who engage in consensual sex with men. And I wonder if the negative feelings of girls who have consensual sex with men or women are conditioned: do they experience negative psychological reactions because they feel they are expected to?

I'd appreciate your readers' comments on this issue, especially those who have first-hand experience, either personal or professional.

Dan Solldiday  
San Francisco

## Tone down the rhetoric

Paula Martinac [*"About the 'P' word," Lesbian Notions*, March 14] is correct when she stated, "...our community rarely discusses that lesbians' and gay men's diverging views on what constitutes pedophilia are a barrier to achieving community." To that end, I believe the definition of pedophilia, by the American Psychiatric Association, in its *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, Fourth Edition* (DSM-4), should be used to frame the issue. The DSM-4 defines the personality disorder of pedophilia as the exclusive or predominant sexual attraction to and sexual contact with persons 13 years of age or younger by persons 16 years of age or older.

Ms. Martinac makes reference to age of consent laws, which are strictly political and social lines of demarcation. Sexual abuse, by its very nature, goes beyond age differences. Obviously, an adult can be sexually abused by another adult of the same age. I too cringe, as apparently Ms. Martinac did, at the gay poet's disingenuous characterization of an older male engaging in oral sex on a sleeping boy, as consensual. Of course it was sexual abuse. But it would have been sexual abuse if the sleeping male was of the same age as the abuser.

The words pedophilia and pedophile have become bastardized, within and without the American gay community, the way the John Birch Society bastardized Communist and communism in the 1950s and 1960s. We need to tone down the rhetoric and engage in a more intellectually honest discussion of sexual abuse, whether against children or adults.

Steven L. Kendall  
Seattle, Washington

## Fresh air to dank closet

The publication of alleged molestation of youngsters by Roman Catholic priests brings fresh air to a dank closet. Some items need clarification. Many studies indicate that most sexual molestation of young boys is perpetrated by straight men not by male homosexuals. Healthy homosexual men seek mature partners of the same gender.

In my career as a pastor and therapist, many gay men told me that when they were teenagers they sought sexual and affectionate relationships with older men. When adult males succumbed to teen sexual advances, they, not the boys, were in danger of arrest and prosecution. Yes, the activities are against the law. Yet the reality of this kind of sexual seduction by teenagers needs attention. Few if any scientific studies look at this phenomenon.

Charges against adult priests are undoubtedly true. I cannot help but think the Roman Catholic Church looks like a cash cow to unscrupulous accusers who bring up charges 15 or 20 years after the fact. Many so-called victims are in it for the payoff.

Reverend Robert Warren Crome  
San Francisco

## Wet dream for homophobes

Am I the only one who thinks the SF Pride's "Pink Brick" award is one of the dumbest ideas ever? This is a wet dream for every single homophobe on the list of nominees. Fred Phelps is dying to win this award so he can bring his yahoos to picket the parade and get all the media attention. Falwell, Robertson, and Sheldon will gladly accept this honor and raise a ton of money off of it. Dr. Laura Schlesinger? She needs all the publicity she can get. Pride is about us — our ac-

complishments, our families, our lives, and our fun. Let's not diminish that with a poorly conceived media gimmick.

Ryan Clary  
San Francisco

## Different meanings

As a GLBTQQI (and beyond) elder in training, I wanted to comment on Craig Udit's "PC runs amok" letter published March 21. I can appreciate his desire not to further divide people, but the words "same-sex" and "same-gender" have different meanings. The need to thoroughly educate ourselves and non-GLBTQQI persons is our essential task as we evolve into the new century.

In addition to anyone else's need to add letters, I support adding an "I" (for intersex) to our lineage. Intersex is differing sexual anatomy between the standard/traditional female and male ones. As a bi-intimate, gender fluid person with XXY sex chromosomes, I have tolerated testosterone injections for 25 years just so my appearance would appear "male." Many intersex persons grow up with a different gender identity (or an in-between one) than what they were assigned at birth, whether or not they suffered infant genital surgeries. The medical community's intent of altering a person's sexual anatomy in childhood and adolescence was so we wouldn't grow up "queer." So many of us did anyway!

David C. Strachan  
San Francisco

## Alternative to wills

As much as I appreciate Michael Adams's desire to get the word out to the LGBT community about the necessity of protecting our rights [*"You need a will!" Guest Opinion*, March 14], I was dismayed to note his exclusion of something I feel is a much better alternative for doing the job (i.e., a revocable living trust).

My partner and I have been together 23 years, and both have been executors to friends' estates after their passing from AIDS. One friend's estate went through the probate courts for three years (what a headache), and another friend's family members still had opportunities to question one thing or another about the content of the will. With a revocable living trust, my partner and I are assured our personal and business affairs will continue after our deaths as though we were still living. There is no judge holding up the signing of checks while the paperwork is reviewed during the probate process, and there are no attorneys compounding the problems caused by hostile family members.

Granted, a will is easier to compose considering all of the software available these days to assist with the process, but, in my opinion, writing a will is the old way to go. A revocable living trust provides much better protection and guarantees my serenity by knowing that my personal and business affairs will continue after my death, with little or no headache caused to my surviving partner.

I want to thank Mr. Adams for encouraging our community to protect itself in these post-September 11 times, but I want to add my recommendation that you inquire about a revocable living trust when you contact the Lambda Legal help desk with questions. Until you've gone through the nightmare of a three-year probate, you do not realize how important a revocable living trust can be in your life, as well as the gift you are giving to the ones closest to you.

Mike Hughes  
San Francisco

## Thank you, Willie Brown!

Being the second-term mayor of San Francisco, you have been squandering S.F. tax money every year in Paris, France, and most recently, blamed the free periodicals for San Francisco's un-cleanliness. Since you took office you have been able to accomplish only two things: First, you have turned our once pristine city into a dirty toilet and second, you have given us a broken down public transportation system that gets stuck every hour it is running and for which one needs a whole day to use. Whom are you kidding, Mr. Mayor? For sure it cannot be those French tourists. San Francisco has become the laughingstock of the world, being the cesspool that you have made it.

John Holo  
San Francisco

## Agreed with critic

I hope Matthew Kennedy's [*"Naked and gold," March 21*] is a regular staff writer of yours. He is to be treasured. I wallowed in his critique of "stars" who were considered for Oscars this year, and I agreed with him over and over. His evaluations of the most publicized films is right on. I enjoyed his insight.

Arch Wilson  
San Francisco

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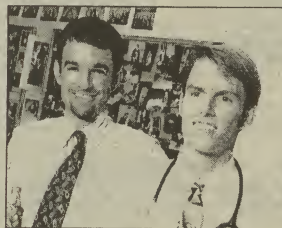
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# Transgendered deception

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

I was recently made aware of an Internet-based movie. Technically, it's nicely done. The plot is simple and effective. It is for a worthy cause, and does a great job of getting its point across.

It is also transphobic.

I should explain in more detail. The movie – an advertisement from the National Center for Tobacco-Free Kids – is warning people about Philip Morris' name change to Altria, labeling it an attempt to appear as a compassionate company while still peddling a dangerous product. It is located on the Web at [www.philipmorriscanthide.org](http://www.philipmorriscanthide.org).

The plot is this: the Marlboro Man, furtively sneaking down back alleys past a "Wanted" poster bearing his likeness, enters the office of a shady plastic surgeon. Surrounded by ominous imagery and a flash of lightning, this diabolical doctor goes to work. The film then cuts to a nice summer day in the park. We see two kids playing in the background, while an innocent-looking woman with a picnic basket appears in the foreground. A name tag on her chest reads "Altria," and two scars on her face – as well as a deep-throated, evil laugh – clue the viewer into the true nature and intentions of this person.

Now I'm sure that when the folks at Free-Range Graphics – a company that also works for such fine causes as Greenpeace and Amnesty International – sat down and planned out this advertisement, the thought that they might harm transgendered people was not on their mind. Nor do I suspect that people at the National Center for Tobacco-Free Kids were considering who might be troubled by their choice of messages.

I don't think they thought at all. I'm not without a good eye for advertising. I am a Web designer, and studied graphic design and advertising in my college days. They have put together a fine product, and I cannot fault them for their ability to "sell" their message.

Nor am I without compassion or understanding. In fact, I support the work of the National Center for Tobacco-Free Kids. While I have no problem with one's own personal choice to smoke whatever it is they wish to smoke – even though I took the

option to avoid such – I do not support the machinations of a company that seeks to foist this product onto children.

I simply disagree with its way of presenting this message. By casting Philip Morris as the recipient of a back-door sex change, they equate transgenderism with deception.

They are not the first people to do this, of course. The media is rife with themes of transgendered people being out to deceive others. It happens nearly every day on Jerry Springer or Maury Povich. Movies such as *Some Like It Hot*, *Tootsie*, *Mrs. Doubtfire*, *One of the Boys*, *The Birdcage*, and the recently-released *Sorority Boys* thrive on the deception angle. In fact, I

would dare say that there is no single thought equated more with transgender media representations than that of deception. I look at shows like *Jerry Springer*, or movies like *Sorority Boys*, and can shrug, knowing that these fine institutions are only looking for a cheap buck, pandering to the lowest common denominator and coming up with the cheapest, easiest "funny" that they can conceive. It is not that I excuse them, no, but that I have come to expect such shoddy materials from these depths of the media.

I don't expect it from an organization that is supposedly dedicated to protecting our youth from the dangers of our modern corporate society. In presenting its message on the backs of transgendered people, the organization has proven itself to be little better than those it accuses. The idea that under the skin of a transsexual lurks the black heart of some dark corporate scheme – while certainly an extreme – is the sort of message that can stick with people. Show this message enough, and it becomes accepted as some form of twisted truth, much like stereotypes of greedy Jews – or murderous homosexuals – permeated the media of decades past. Perhaps the surgically-enhanced "Altria" is little more than the "Frito Bandito" in this modern world.

The idea that under the skin of a transsexual lurks the black heart of some dark corporate scheme – while certainly an extreme – is the sort of message that can stick with people.

Show this message enough, and it becomes accepted as some form of twisted truth, much like stereotypes of greedy Jews – or murderous homosexuals – permeated the media of decades past. Perhaps the surgically-enhanced "Altria" is little more than the "Frito Bandito" in this modern world.



Christine Smith

I can only hope that the "Marlboro Tranny" goes the same way as the "Frito Bandito," falling into well-deserved obscurity.

It is also not like those of us in the transgender community haven't done our own part in perpetuating this belief. The concept of "passing" in the transgender community – of being seen as something other than a transgendered person – only seems to further us being seen as deceptive.

I can't point all the fingers without displaying my own skeletons. I've spent some of my own time in that same closet, keeping my transgender history a dirty little secret from employers and others. My life now does not demand that I hide my past, and I am glad of it. It is because of my history, however, that I cannot fully fault those who do need to use some artifice to gain employment, or secure housing, or do whatever it takes to live their lives as full and happy human beings. I do hope, though, that as society moves forward, hiding our histories and trying to fit into society's rigid boxes will become as dated as the Edsel.

But those changes do not happen without a shift in the way the media opts to show the transgendered. Perhaps it is necessary for those in the media to reevaluate these presentations, and see how they might cause harm.

I cannot think of a better place for that to start than with the National Center for Tobacco-Free Kids, and I hope leaders of the group will realize that while trying to save children from cigarettes, they may have harmed a whole other group of people. ▼

Gwen Smith is would not walk a mile for anyone's dromedary. She can be found on the Web in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo," and at [www.gwensmith.com](http://www.gwensmith.com).

## HIV prevention

◀ page 4

help people to start thinking in a different way in regard to HIV and substance abuse and sexuality."

Young's organization is spearheading both of the marketing campaigns. The first is entitled Building Bridges and will try to link providers of HIV prevention and substance abuse prevention within the African American community. The Center for Substance Abuse Prevention awarded a \$100,000 one-year planning grant to develop the campaign.

"Here is the deal: it is obvious when folks are getting high or abusing substances, whether alcohol or drugs, your defenses go down and you are not thinking clearly," explained Frazier, president of the San

Francisco Association of Drug and Alcohol Program Contractors. "Whatever level of safe behavior you exhibited when not under the influence, when your defense goes down you are more than likely not going to practice safe sex."

The second campaign for black MSM is being developed in collaboration with Promotions West, a local public relations and marketing firm. DPH, the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, and Bristol-Myers are funding the campaign, with \$190,000 earmarked for radio spots and bus shelter advertisements that will appear this summer.

"Something needs to happen to get the message out. It has to come from within the community," said Frazier, who also is a co-chair of the HIV Health Services Planning Council. "There has to be an inter-

nal explosion of information within the community to help people look at this issue differently. In turn they will get tested and start taking better care of themselves."

For each campaign, Young and Mikael Wagner, owner of Promotions West, are turning to various segments of the African American community to help develop and produce the messages to be used.

"These two projects provide an opportunity for broad communities to participate in the development of HIV prevention messages," said Young. "Through involving those communities where ads and media messages will be displayed, we have a better opportunity to increase awareness, testing and use of services."

For more information on the campaigns, or to participate in focus groups, call (415) 781-2121. ▼



## POLITICS

# Davis and Democrats early election favorites

by Wayne Friday

Only weeks ago, many California Republican leaders felt that with former Los Angeles Mayor **Richard Riordan** at the head of the ticket, they would not only take back the governor's office, but had hopes that they likely would pick up at least a couple of the other state constitutional offices as well.

Apparently, much of that optimism has now changed. With the come-from-behind victory of **William E. Simon**, a conservative transplanted New Yorker, over Riordan on March 5, most political prognosticators now feel that the November general election in California is **Gray Davis's** to lose. Davis, the incumbent Democratic governor, has suddenly, in the minds of many political analysts, become the favorite to win re-election this year, very possibly taking with him to victory a full slate of Democratic state constitutional officers as well.

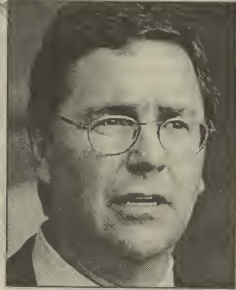
Davis, with incumbency always being a bit of an edge to begin with, is better-known than his Republican opponent; true, in Davis's case, being well-known does not mean he is necessarily better liked. That said, however, Riordan, a moderate Republican who was twice elected mayor of heavily Democratic Los Angeles, would surely have been a much stronger opponent for Davis than the conservative, pro-life, pro-gun, anti-gay (reportedly, anyway) Simon, and thus, Davis, considered a question for re-election only a few weeks ago, finds himself a definite favorite to win another four years in Sacramento.

Defeating Simon will not be easy for Davis; he has made mistakes, is disliked for one reason or another by many Californians, and will not win by the landslide he enjoyed over **Dan Lungren** four years ago. True, it's a long time from April to November in politics (just ask Riordan) but if I were to bet, I'd bet that Davis and Company wins over the ultra-conservative Simon and his ticket in the fall general election.

**Cruz Bustamante**, the incumbent lieutenant governor, is clearly an early favorite to defeat his GOP challenger, **Bruce McPherson**, a moderate state senator from Santa Cruz. Although McPherson's pro-choice, gun-control views make him one of the more moderate Republicans in the Legislature, he endorsed Riordan in the primary and there are those in the Simon campaign said to be, at best, "lukewarm" to McPherson in the number two slot.

Democratic Attorney General **Bill Lockyer**, with wide name recognition and nearly \$5 million in his campaign account, is clearly favored to win re-election over his Republican opponent, **Dick Ackerman**, a conservative state senator from Fullerton in Orange County.

San Francisco Assemblyman **Kevin Shelley**, the Assembly's majority leader, beat out two well-known political names — **March Fong Eu** and **Michela Alioto** — to win the Democratic nomination for the vacated secretary of state seat. Shelley goes into the November election with strong



Candidate Kevin Shelley

backing from labor unions, and the endorsements of both U.S. Senators **Dianne Feinstein** and **Barbara Boxer**. He enjoys a deep source of campaign cash, and will face businessman **Keith Olberg**,

a former assemblyman who has not held office for several years. I asked several political activists at a well-attended political gathering last week who Shelley's Republican opponent was and not one of them could tell me. Keith Olberg? The

guy is a definite underdog and California's next secretary of state will be from San Francisco.

**Phil Angelides**, a former Sacramento businessman and the incumbent state treasurer, also faces a relative political unknown, **Greg Conlon**, a former president of the state Public Utilities Commission; the incumbent Democrat should win that one easily.

In the contest for state Controller where the incumbent is termed out, Democrat **Steve Westly**, a party activist and former eBay executive, is favored to win over his GOP opponent, **Tom McClintock**, a legislator with a relatively well-known name, but a reputation as being so far-right on issues like gay rights, abortion, and gun-control that he has little chance against the well-financed, personable Westly.

In the race for state insurance commissioner, **John Garamendi**, who was the first elected insurance commissioner, is trying for another stint at the job and faces Republican **Gary Mendoza**, a former state commissioner. Garamendi has a well-known political name, is well-financed, and is heavily favored to win the job he held several years ago.

Even in the nonpartisan race for state superintendent of public instruction, Democratic state Senator **Jack O'Connell** of San Luis Obispo, who is endorsed by the powerful California Teachers Association, one of the state's largest political contributors, is favored over his opponent, **Katherine H. Smith**, a Republican member of the Anaheim school board.

Add to the strong Democratic slate the fact that the GOP is fighting has reportedly broken out in the Simon for Governor campaign between Simon managers and **Gerald Parsky**, President **G.W. Bush's** top political operative in California (both Parsky and Bush strongly supported Riordan in the primary), and even many state Republican leaders will privately concede that their party needs a long shot, uphill win by Simon

over Davis to avoid a complete Democratic statewide sweep.

## Politics and people

More possible November supervisorial candidates: **Bevan Duffy**, **Shawn O'Hearn**, **Wade Crowfoot**, and **Eileen Hansen** in District 8; **Janet Reilly** against Supervisor **Gavin Newsom** in District 2; **Linda Richardson** against Supervisor **Sophie Maxwell** in District 10; **Andrew Lee**, **Fiona Ma**, **Ron Dudum** in District 4.

**Leland Yee**, the current supe in District 4 and **Mark Leno**, the supe in District 8, are headed to the Assembly and the buzz around town is that with his strong fundraising and coalition building talents, Leno is expected to ably follow the Sacramento leadership track laid by other San Franciscans like **Willie Brown**, **John Burton**, **Carole Migden**, and **Kevin Shelley**; "Speaker" Leno sounds pretty good, doesn't it?

Could Berkeley be run by a gay man? Rumors are already flying that out City Council member **Kriss Worthington** from Berkeley's progressive camp will run against moderate **Shirley Dean** as she seeks an unprecedented third term as mayor. While he is already being talked up as a likely candidate, Worthington says he is not in the running. At least not yet. Instead, he said the progressives are trying to convince either termed-out District 14 Assemblywoman **Dion Aroner** (D-Berkeley) or former District 14 Assemblyman **Tom Bates**, now a University of California at Berkeley professor, to knock out Dean. And if the two decline the overtures? "If I am the best one to win, I am open to that possibility," said Worthington, who last fall dropped out of the 14th District Assembly race to make way for former Berkeley Mayor **Loni Hancock** to enter the race. Hancock trumped her opponent during the March primary. No matter who ends up filing the paperwork to take on Dean, Worthington said the progressives need to rally behind one powerful candidate in order to take back City Hall. "I think the most important thing is to not repeat the stupid mistakes of the last [mayoral] election where the progressives ran multiple candidates and split the vote. That is the reason why we got Shirley as mayor last time," noted Worthington. Even if Worthington does not enter into the mayor's race, he will be on the ballot in November: he is up for reelection to his council seat.

"The case over and over again is that the Republicans haven't delivered; they only call us when they need us; the Republicans can reach out to us again now but it is a little late," former NBA great **Earvin "Magic" Johnson** said last week in L.A. during a press conference announcing his endorsement of Governor Gray Davis for re-election; Johnson, a longtime resident of Los Angeles, also said he is "seriously" considering a run for mayor of that city, possibly as soon as the next election.

Baseball returns: The San Francisco Giants had a few pre-season games at Pac Bell Park last week and Project Open Hand's **Jim Illig** threw out the ceremonial first pitch before last Thursday's Giants-A's game. Illig, who's openly gay and who sits on the advisory board of the Catholic Charities, was coached by POH's **Bill Ambrunn**.

And how was your week? ▼

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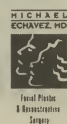
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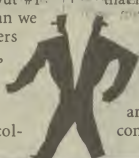
# The mistake of 'GLBT'

by Dale Carpenter

Every movement struggles with the desire for the ideal and the need for the practical. A column I recently wrote addressed the fallacies in the argument that the gay civil rights movement must include protection for gender identity in gay civil rights laws because gays "owe" transgender activists some debt for drag queens' participation in Stonewall. I made three points: (1) the importance of Stonewall has been exaggerated; (2) the impor-

...tance of drag queens to Stonewall has been exaggerated; and (3) even if I am wrong about #1 and #2, that doesn't mean we must include transgenders in gay civil rights laws, since there are numerous considerations of practical politics here.

Most replies to that column, as usually happens when one writes critically about the "T" in "GLBT," consisted of name-calling. Many responses called the column "transphobic" or "elitist" because it



OutRight

would, "leave some people behind," as if every law doesn't do that in some fashion.

There were, however, a couple of rational responses that challenged me on substantive grounds. These responses argued that there is a close connection between gay and transgender issues that ought not be ignored by gay civil rights laws. These responses raise important issues.

There are two separate questions when it comes to inclusion

of gender identity in gay civil rights laws. First, is inclusion warranted as a matter of principle? Second, if it is warranted as a matter of principle, is it sensible as a matter of practical politics?

On the first question, I am not convinced that gay and transgender issues are so connected that principle dictates they be dealt with together in all legislation. The standard argument from principle seems to be that gay issues are a subset of all gender issues because gays, by having same-sex mates, transgress traditional gender/sex boundaries.

There are many things to say about this argument, but let's focus on one basic point. Since the beginning of the gay civil rights movement, there have been people trying to claim the cause is really about something other than homosexuality. For some 1960s and 1970s activists, it was really about ending an unjust capitalist system, or supporting movements for national liberation, or ending racism, or eliminating poverty. For many (especially male) activists, it was really about sexual liberation generally, as if we were fighting for the right to fornicate in the streets or with children.

I distrust claims that gay civil rights is really about something else (like poverty or gender). To me, such arguments seem like another way of erasing gay lives and concerns by subsuming them to some other cause favored by the advocate.

Such arguments are also reductionist: they reduce the gay experience to one aspect of life. Take the issue of our supposed "gender transgression." Many gay people see themselves in gender-conforming terms and seek gender-conforming traits in their mates. Is this in itself wrong? I don't think so, any more than it's wrong to prefer tall lovers to short ones or brown-haired ones to blondes. Does having a same-sex mate transgress traditional gender expectations? Of course, but this singular act of rebellion does not make a gender revolution of the type transgender activists seek.

On the second, practical issue, even if I were convinced that as a matter of principle gay and transgender issues are linked, I would still hesitate before adding "gender identity" to gay civil rights legislation.

As a legislator, I might personally support protecting transgenders from much private discrimination. But unfortunately, very few of my fellow legislators (in most places) would share my view. I could, of course, take the time and effort to explain it to them, but that period of education might add years to the final passage of my gay civil rights law. In the meantime, gay people will continue to face discrimination.

Not every law has to address every problem. Progress means that you get what you can while you can get it. Then, when you can get more, you do so. Progress comes by degrees, not (usually) by revolutions. The black civil rights movement did not fight to protect people from age discrimination. Was that ageist?

In almost every jurisdiction in the country where both gays and transgenders are protected, the protection for gays preceded the protection of transgenders by many years. This gap allowed people an opportunity to see that the world didn't end by protecting gays and that taking the additional incremental step of protecting

next page ►

**ALL HIV PROVIDERS IN SAN FRANCISCO HAVE BEEN SENT THE LETTER BELOW. IF YOU ARE A GAY MAN MAKE SURE YOUR DOCTOR GETS THIS MESSAGE. CUT OUT THE LETTER BELOW AND TAKE IT YOUR DOCTOR.**

**KNOWLEDGE = POWER**

March 14, 2002

Dear Colleague,

Hi. As you may know, HIV-providers are the most frequent physicians in San Francisco to report cases of syphilis. The rate of syphilis cases in gay men and men who have sex with men in San Francisco continues to increase. In 2000 there were 52 cases which increased to 153 in 2001. A recent CDC study demonstrated that the rate of syphilis in HIV-infected men in San Francisco was about 1864 per 100,000 per year, a very high rate warranting increased screening and prevention efforts.

Syphilis infection in HIV-infected patients can increase the viral load, increase the transmissibility of HIV and can be more difficult to treat. Among those not infected with HIV, syphilis can increase the likelihood of acquiring HIV and may be a marker of risk behavior for HIV acquisition.

Please remember that persons with rash-like illnesses may have secondary syphilis. For this reason, I would suggest that you and your staff routinely obtain serum RPR or VDRLs on all patients presenting with a rash-like syndrome.

We currently recommend TWICE ANNUAL syphilis screening in sexually active gay men and men who have sex with men. We will be informing the community that this is our recommended standard for syphilis screening and hope that you and your colleagues will support our efforts to reduce the continued transmission of syphilis in San Francisco.

Thank you.

Jeffrey D. Klausner, MD, MPH  
Director  
STD Prevention & Control Services  
San Francisco Department of Public Health



## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Bang for the buck

by Jane Warner

**B**ank of America, 501 Castro, March 28, 5:15 p.m.: A man entered the bank and waited in line for the teller. When he approached the counter, he pointed a silver handgun at the teller and demanded money. The teller gave him a large sum of cash and the man fled out of the bank in an unknown direction. Officers searched the area, but could not find him.

The suspect, believed to be responsible for five other bank robberies in the city in the past six months, is described as African American, 34-40 years old, 5 feet 11 inches tall and weighing 240 pounds, with a dark

complexion, medium Afro hair-style, and a mustache and goatee. He is described as having a neat appearance and has been seen wearing sport coats, white dress shirts, slacks, and dress shoes. Anyone with information is asked to call the San Francisco Police Department's robbery division at (415) 553-1201 or the FBI at (415) 553-7400.

## Better to walk

Castro Muni station, March 25, 7:58 p.m.: A man on board an inbound Muni rail car kept making advances to three young women sitting in the back of the train. The women complained to the driver who told the man to stop pestering the women. Angry, the man approached the driver and started

to argue with him. The driver pushed him away and told him to get off the train. Instead, the man returned to his seat and pulled a semiautomatic handgun from his backpack. Standing at the rear of the car, the suspect held the gun with both hands and pulled the trigger, firing a single shot at the driver. Frightened passengers ducked for cover. The bullet, missing its target, lodged in the roof of the car. Described as a white male, 5 feet 7 inches tall, with a thin build, brown shoulder length hair, wearing a blue jacket and holding a shoulder bag, the gunman fled the train and was last seen running up the stairs of Harvey Milk Plaza. Responding police were unable to locate him.

## Gravity switch

Market and Noe, March 20, 8 p.m.: A motorcycle, traveling west-bound on Market, suddenly lost control, striking the center median strip. Witnesses at the scene said the bike jumped the curb and rode six to seven feet up the trunk of a palm tree. As birds flew from the tree, the driver fell from his perch and into the bed of a passing pickup truck. The motorcyclist was carried by the truck for over 100 feet before falling from the bed, landing in the middle of Market Street. The driver of the truck, a Caucasian female, failed to stop, but it was unknown whether she was aware of what was happening. The injured motorcyclist was taken to the hospital and treated for two broken hands and an injury to his knee. ▼



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# Leather Leadership conference next week

by Liz Highleyman

**T**he sixth annual Leather Leadership Conference comes to our own backyard this year, taking place April 12-14 in Los Angeles.

The theme of this year's conference, co-chaired by Olga Cox, Carlos Populus, and George Wong, is "Trust, Honor, Respect: Creating Community Through Diversity."

The aims of LLC include developing leadership skills, enhancing the effectiveness of individuals and groups within the leather community, and fostering a sense of unity and understanding among leather, BDSM, and related groups. A more controversial goal is the promulgation of community policy. Past conferences have produced policy statements on "The Difference Between SM and Abuse" and "BDSM Education."

Unlike the many leather conferences that revolve around title contests, dungeon parties, and workshops on SM technique, LLC focuses on developing practical skills in areas such as organization, outreach, and activism.

The first LLC, held in New York City in 1997, was inspired by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Creating Change conference. Last year's LLC, which drew over 200 attendees, took place in Chicago; the last West Coast LLC was held in San Francisco in 1999.

This year's conference is ex-

pected to bring together educators, academics, authors, activists, and others from across the country. The pansexual conference is open to participants of all genders and sexual orientations.

Presentations will cover a broad range of topics organized into six tracks: personal and social skills (e.g., communication, dealing with conflict), organizational management (e.g., starting a group, event planning), outreach (e.g., attracting and retaining members), community issues (e.g., diversity and inclusion, leather history), activism (e.g., avoiding legal problems), and public relations (e.g., dealing with the media, law enforcement, and health professionals). The conference will include workshops, panel discussions, and (just like big professional conferences) a poster session.

This year's keynote speaker is Brian Dawson, International Mr. Drummer 1989 and a member of Los Angeles' Avatar Club.

Conference organizers promise that attendees will leave LLC "inspired to make a difference in your community, and with the knowledge, tools and contacts you need to make it happen." ▼

LLC takes place at the Manhattan Beach Marriott in Los Angeles. Registration is \$90. For more information, visit the Web site at [www.leatherleadership.org](http://www.leatherleadership.org).

## OutRight

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transgenders also wouldn't cause it to end. This pace may be unsatisfying but it's preferable to waiting for a perfectly inclusive law that may never come.

I suppose one could respond that there is a very practical concern for gays involved here: if gender expression is not protected by law some gays will face discrimination for their gender presentation (butch women, effeminate men) rather than for their sexual orientation (gay) and yet will not be protected by the law.

This scenario is theoretically possible, but is not very likely. Almost any gay person subjected to discrimination for being gender variant will have been subjected to explicitly anti-gay abuse and thus will have some legal recourse under a law that protects sexual orientation but excludes gender identity. I certainly would not hold up the passage of a gay civil rights law to reach extraordinary cases.

We need to begin a reasoned, substantive, open discussion of these issues. The inclusiveness of "GLBT" might make us feel good, but it shouldn't become a talismanic barrier to progress. ▼

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# Bush names NIH director, surgeon general nominees

by Bob Roehr

President George W. Bush introduced his nominees for the key health positions of director of the National Institutes of Health and surgeon general at a White House news conference on March 26. Neither man was widely known but both embody variations of an American success story and likely are headed for easy confirmation by the Senate.

Elias A. Zerhouni, 50, was chosen to lead the NIH, confirming a trial balloon that had been floated last month. He and his wife were born and raised in Algeria, coming to the U.S. in 1975 for his medical residence in radiology at Johns Hopkins University. He taught for four years at Eastern Virginia Medical School before returning to Hopkins in 1985, advancing through the system to become executive vice dean of the School of Medicine in 1997.

Zerhouni developed innovative ways of using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technology to get a better sense of living tissue, such as the heart and blood vessels, without using invasive procedures. Colleagues have praised him for an entrepreneur-



President Bush and surgeon general nominee Dr. Richard H. Carmona.

ial spirit and superb managerial skills in forging consensus among often-competitive researchers.

Many previous NIH directors have come from within the agency. But the nature of the job has changed dramatically with a doubling of the NIH budget over the last five years. The proposed budget for the next fiscal year is \$27 billion. Zerhouni's skills as an administrator are likely to be his most important asset.

The position has been vacant for more than two years, since Harold Varmus departed in December 1999. Former President Bill Clinton did not fill the position during the remaining year of his term.

Bush's efforts have been dogged by controversy surrounding policy on stem cell research that some have tied to the hot button topic of abortion. Few candidates wanted to consider the NIH position before the president articulated his stem cell policy last August. Then came the terrorist attacks of September that drew attention elsewhere.

Zerhouni may face some tough questioning on abortion and stem cell research in his confirmation hearings. But the White House has assured people on both sides of the question that he supports the administration's policy.

Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, had been rumored to have the inside track to step up to lead all of NIH. But those same rumors had him insisting on keeping time for research in his lab and possibly even the title of director at NIAID as conditions for accepting the position. That led some observers to speculate that Fauci really did not want the promotion and was erecting barriers to it.

### Surgeon general

Tucson physician Richard H. Carmona is the surprise nominee for surgeon general, the nation's leading health educator. His résumé is packed with awe-inspiring experiences, one of which even became a made-for-TV movie.

Carmona, 52, was born and raised in Spanish Harlem, a self-described "poor street kid" of alcoholic parents. He dropped out of high school and entered the Army, eventually becoming a Green Beret and a medic. He earned two Purple Hearts during service in Vietnam.

He later attended medical school at the University of California, San Francisco, graduating at the top of his class in 1979, and stayed through 1985 for an internship and residency in general surgery. He was at the epicenter of

the AIDS epidemic when it first hit.

Carmona picked up a master's in public health at the University of Arizona and has taught surgery, public health, and community medicine at its medical school, even while directing trauma and hospital services for several different organizations in Tucson. He also developed expertise in bioterrorism.

But Carmona is perhaps best known locally for his service on the SWAT team of the Pima County Sheriff's Department. In 1992 he dangled out of a helicopter to rescue a man stranded on a cliff, which led to the TV movie. In 1999 he came upon a man assaulting a woman at an intersection. The man began shooting and one bullet grazed Carmona's scalp. He returned fire, killing the man.

At last week's White House ceremony, the president charged Carmona with three priority tasks: to educate and prepare the Public Health Service and the American public for the threat of bioterrorism; promotion of good health through diet and exercise; and the reduction of alcohol and drug abuse.

Representative Jim Kolbe, the openly gay Republican who represents Tucson in Congress, pushed for Carmona's appointment. "He's obviously a controversial figure in our community," Kolbe told the *Arizona Daily Star*, "but I think he's uniquely qualified to be our chief spokesman on health care issues at a moment where we're focused on biological and possible terrorist attacks."

President Clinton fired his first surgeon general, Joycelyn Elders, for speaking frankly in response to a question about masturbation in the context of HIV prevention. The post was vacant for more than two years before Davidatcher took over. Satcher retired from government service in February upon completion of his four-year appointment to that position.

### Reactions

Gay and AIDS advocates had muted reactions to the nominees, generally knowing little more about them than what they read in media accounts.

David Smith, spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign, said that neither nominee appears to have a public record on gay or AIDS issues. HRC staff are calling around to local contacts but so far have seen no red flags. Smith said he hopes that the Senate will explore these issues during the confirmation process.

"I'm relieved that they are finally going to have somebody over there" at NIH, said Terje Anderson, executive director of the National Association of People With AIDS. Health advocates have been concerned that senior positions at NIH and the Food and Drug Administration have been vacant for so long.

Anderson was encouraged that the nominees appear to be "decent, competent people."

"Now there is a chance of recruiting" to fill six vacant institute directorships at NIH and other key slots, such as head of the Office of AIDS Research, Anderson added. ▼

## FREE TRANNNYFAG EVENTS IN APRIL

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### You Won't Believe What I Did Last Night

Tues, April 9, 7-9pm @ STOP AIDS Project, 2128 15th St. @ Market St.

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# More from jailhouse interview Noel speaks out after guilty verdicts

by Ed Walsh

[Editor's note: Robert Noel and Marjorie Knoller will be sentenced May 10 in San Francisco Superior Court. Noel faces a four-year prison term after being convicted on March 21 of involuntary manslaughter in the death of Diane Whipple. Knoller was found guilty of second-degree murder and involuntary manslaughter and faces a potential sentence of 15-years-to-life. The couple was also convicted of keeping a mischievous animal that killed a person.

Noel spoke to the Bay Area Reporter on March 26, just two hours after he returned from Los Angeles where the trial was moved. As the B.A.R. reported last week, Noel blames the guilty verdicts in large part on the prosecution unfairly linking him and his wife to the Aryan Brotherhood prison gang. The couple's adopted son, Paul Schneider, is a member of the gang. This week, more from that interview.]

When told that he and Marjorie Knoller were so disliked by jurors that some suggested that Knoller may have sicced the dogs on Diane Whipple, Robert Noel responded: "Marjorie certainly isn't that type of person. As a matter of fact I would seriously doubt if Bane or Hera [the dogs involved in the attack] would respond to any 'Sic 'em girl.' Because that was just something that was not in their training."

Noel recounted an incident that he testified about during the grand jury hearing that eventually resulted in indictments against him and Knoller. He said he was walking Bane early one morning and caught a street person rummaging through a bakery delivery to a business owned by two of his friends. Although Noel angrily ordered the street person to get away from the delivery, Bane continued to wag his tail and act very friendly toward the man despite Noel's obvious animosity toward him.

A lot was made during the trial of letters Noel wrote in which he appeared to express little sympathy for Whipple's death and in some cases, referred to people as "assholes."

"I'm too much of a curmudgeon to pull any punches," he explained. "I've used the term asshole to describe myself on any



Robert Noel, left, with attorney Bruce Hotchkiss as the verdicts were read in a Los Angeles courtroom March 21.

number of occasions and I don't make any apologies for any of the stuff I've said in the letters that came in. ... I don't know if there's anyone in the world who could withstand that treatment. Otherwise everyone in their private letters would write 'Dear Jane, See Spot. See Spot run. Sincerely.'"

The prosecution made an issue of Noel writing a letter to Schneider to inform him of the deadly attack on Whipple. Noel began the letter: "There's no easy way to ease into this, Bane is dead, as is our neighbor." Noel said that excerpt was misinterpreted to imply he cared more about dogs than people.

"Because Paul [Schneider] and [his cellmate] Dale [Bretches] know who Bane is, I start with Bane and that becomes my preferring dogs or my somehow or another valuing dogs over people. ... Starting that letter is the hardest thing I've ever done to that point in my life."

"I'm not going to make any apologies for being relieved that Marjorie came out of that alive," he added.

When asked about the flamboyant style of Knoller's attorney, Nedra Ruiz, including her getting down on all fours to illustrate Knoller heroically trying to save Whipple, Noel responded: "Sometimes you have to be dramatic. I don't want to second-guess her or what she had in mind. I'm trying

that Whipple would be alive if she had filed a complaint about the dogs if she believed they were dangerous.

Noel said he took issue with Smith testifying about her reason for not filing a complaint about his dogs.

"She said she didn't want anything to do with 'those people,' meaning us, and I couldn't figure out for the life of me why. What did we ever do to her before? I couldn't imagine anything that would cause a statement like that."

Several jurors said they were strongly influenced by the *Good Morning America* interview that prosecutors played in court. In the broadcast, Noel and Knoller expressed no sympathy for Whipple's partner or her family.

"I have some questions about that GMA interview," said Noel. "I don't think it was a complete interview. Our first remarks were of sympathy and sorrow for Diane

and her family and friends and that was not on the tape they played for the jury."

Noel said he wasn't certain if the tape was edited for broadcast on the West Coast. He said the section of the interview in which they expressed sympathy for Whipple's friends and relatives may have been part of a taped interview he did at the same time for an ABC primetime news program.

Besides the association with the Aryan Brotherhood, Noel hinted of other grounds for appeal. He said at least two of the witnesses against him described run-ins with the dogs while they were with him or his wife during a time period when the couple was 400 miles from home.

Overall, Noel said he is confident of his chances for appeal.

"There's still a lot to be fought about and it ain't over yet and the fat lady hasn't sung yet," he said. ▼

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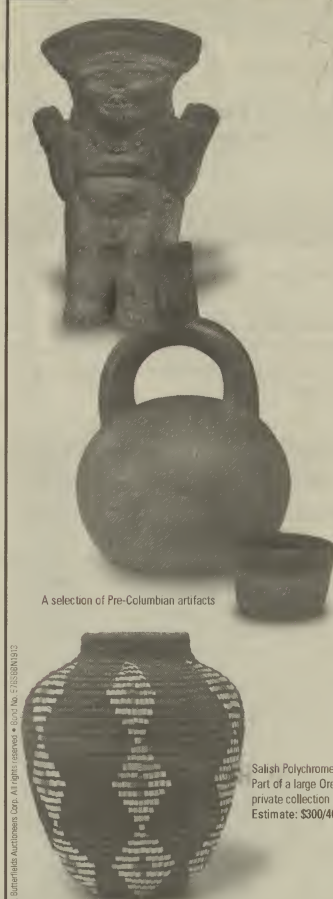
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# Guerrilla Queer Bar meets the BBC

by Joe Dignan

The lens of the television camera pokes through a hole in the bathroom door. Inside, Jim DeVinny has his patent pump-shod foot up on the toilet seat. Tall, blond, and skinny, he's wearing tight black schoolboy shorts, a white shirt, tie, and a blue blazer. He's sticking a cross of Band-Aids on his bare knee to complete what he calls his "British School-Boy Look."

"I like the accent. British is sexy," DeVinny said. Outside the door, BBC director Oliver Clark, a crew of two cameramen and a sound man from London, an American host, and four other organizers of Guerrilla Queer Bar are pacing in the hall and kitchen of DeVinny's Mission-district flat, drinking beer and getting ready to go out on what will be the twenty-something outing for the now nearly two-year-old San Francisco bar crawl.

But tonight, March 28, is different. The about once-a-month

event is getting its first international media attention, on BBC-TV.

The BBC is here to film a segment for a *That Gay Show*, part of the network's digital TV offering. Every episode of the weekly magazine show, aimed at gay men, features a six- or seven-minute "Letter from America." American comic Scott Capurro is the host of the segment, called "Scott Free."

Standing in the kitchen, BBC researcher Simon Davis said, "It's about gay life you wouldn't find in the U.K." A gay rodeo. A commitment ceremony.

This isn't the first media attention Guerrilla Queer Bar has had, and after a cover story in the *Bay Guardian* and articles in most other local papers, its founders are practiced at explaining the concepts behind their invention.

One of the group, Brian McConnell, is, among other things, a telecommunications engineer. At the kitchen table, he's souping up the amplifier of his MP3-playing bullhorn. "It needs to be louder," he said, and periodically tests it,

blasting "God Save the Queen" as the BBC crew tries to catch some of the other organizers as they do their pre-going-out makeovers.

"We were just bored," said McConnell of the inspiration for the queer bar crawl. "We could go to the Stud, Universe, or we could just sit around the house and jerk off."

Approximately once a month McConnell calls out the troops to descend on a normally straight bar — or several. The group's e-mail list is up to about 2,500 people now he said, and the concept has been copied in 12 other cities around the world. Normally, about 150 to 200 turn out for the San Francisco version.

"It's taken off in a bunch of cities. They've been most active in Seattle and Austin," McConnell said. "In other cities they're more polite. But people here have a sort of fuck-you attitude. We just show up. There's a sort of performance-art aspect."

For the participants, he said, "I see it more as venturing out. Lots of gay people limit themselves to gay neighborhoods. Having physical places to go to is a good thing, but the Castro should be a lot better than it is. It's a Muni stop for most people."

"For a lot of younger people, being gay is just one aspect of their personality. They don't need to live in a gay neighborhood. For a lot of my peers the gay culture is oppressive. It's homogenized."

It's now almost 8 p.m., the time the e-mail to the faithful said to meet at Zeitgeist, a Mission District bar with a biker clientele. The

group with the camera crew now includes two British schoolboys, a soccer hooligan with a fright wig and a black eye, and another organizer, Hunter Gatewood, whose makeover consisted of putting on a bowler hat.

"The guys are going to come down. Cool. That's lovely," said Clark.

Walking to the first bar, Gatewood explains that the organizers, back in May 2000, spread the word about the first party by logging onto online gay sex chat rooms and giving out a link to the QGB Web site. That first crowd, about 60, according to Gatewood, was evenly divided between the organizers' friends and guys from the chat rooms.

"Yeah, it's still pretty cruisy," he said.

About a block from Zeitgeist, the camera crew starts to merge with clumps of Guerrilla Queer Bar-goers, some dressed up for the occasion, some in street clothes.

The group in front of the bar becomes a swirling mass of Union Jacks, hip-huggers, Beate wigs, big sunglasses, and tight T-shirts.

The camera crew films the organizers going into the bar, and then rushes through the swinging doors themselves to get a shot of the boys ordering. Moments later they are back on the street, pursued by a bartender shaking her head.

"You can't film inside," she said, shooting the crew onto the sidewalk.

Director Clark appears momentarily shaken. He's come 5,000 miles with a crew of four to film a bar crawl, and now he can't get into the bar.

Clark sends researcher Davis back in through the door. "Just try, and be very polite," Clark said.

One of the cameras is a handheld, not much bigger than a home model. Clark and the sound man start pulling plugs out of the big camera.

Davis re-emerges with the bartender. There's a compromise. "Maybe you can bring your camera inside," said the bartender, but they may not film.

Inside, the few Zeitgeist regulars, bikers mainly, have banished themselves to the back room and are playing pool. They are ignoring the QGBers up in the front five deep at the bar, trying to get a drink.

"I always come with friends who are more aggressive," said Ron Woloshun waving his empty hands. "But I have nothing. I shouldn't talk."

"I think the gay scene in San Francisco is very stultified," he

said. "It's a much more interesting group of men. It's mobile. It's not a gay ghetto. And it's strength in numbers. I can't imagine going to a place like this with one friend."

Then, about 45 minutes after they arrived, and because the Zeitgeist staff wouldn't let the camera crew work, McConnell's souped-up bullhorn blares, "Attention QGB people. We are leaving."

As the crowd swarms out, the cameraman strides, backwards, down the Valencia Street sidewalk, filming, with the camera on his shoulder, pointed back into the crowd, the controls clutched in his right hand, holding on to Davis with his left, relying on Davis to keep him from crashing into lampposts, parking meters and the crowd in front of him.

"Who are all these folk?" asked one passerby as the mob rounded the corner of 16th Street headed, now, for Skylark which had, until tonight, been a down-at-the-heels dot-com dance and dive bar a few doors from the Latin drag show venue, Esta Noche.

A crowd builds on the sidewalk outside the now-packed Skylark, smoking, laughing. In the middle of it all is the BBC crew. DeVinny comes out.

"They'll let you film if you sign a release which says that it's okay with everybody here," he said.

Director Clark, ever willing to declare success in the face of adversity, finally said, "We're not going to get in a bar. I've suddenly realized that the bar is not the important thing."

So he stages a shot of the organizers streaming out the front door of Esta Noche.

The boys stream out of the doors and Capurro does his stand-up.

"The bars in the neighborhood are packed with fags. Let's go and check the rest of them," he deadpans into the camera. The cameraman steps back, aiming up to catch the neon sign in front of the bar.

"Lovely, that worked brilliantly. This is just going to be so cool," said Clark. "I think we're done guys."

"We've got all we need," he explained to DeVinny. "That little walk down Valencia, that was bigger than some gay Pride marches in the UK."

It's just before 10 p.m., and the BBC is gone. Inside Skylark, the bartender jumps up on the bar at the end of the room. "Welcome to Skylark!" he yells over the crowd. He introduces the DJ. A shirtless man is dancing on a banquette. "Thank you all for coming." ▼

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Parties promote safe sex

by Matthew S. Bajko

**E**aster Sunday brought a different kind of service for nine guys hidden behind the doors of a long forgotten storefront in the Western Addition.

Each had come to take part in a sensual Easter service.

But this had nothing to do with religion.

It had everything to do with sex. Safe sex to be exact.

The guys had all responded to a Craigslist posting about an erotic party for boys under 30. Unlike other postings on Internet sites and in chat rooms, where barebacking and party-and-play (using drugs and then having sex) tend to be the norm, at this event drug-free and safe sex are the house rules.

In fact, the sex is really an aside to the main event.

"These parties are all about sharing intimacy with a group of

like-minded guys! The atmosphere is NOT like a typical sex club," read the posting. "This is NOT an anonymous, walk in/get out kind of event. There is time for socializing and getting acquainted before the action gets started."

The post was written by Mark, a 37-year-old San Francisco resident, who agreed to discuss his parties as long as his last name, and the location of the parties, were not disclosed. The Easter-themed party was the fifth such underground event Mark has thrown this year.

"I have been to the sex clubs. Those are very dehumanizing places where in fact you are basically an object," he said. "They can be very hard to your ego because you can be rejected repeatedly and sometimes in very mean ways. These parties are not a roomful of GQ model men with chiseled bodies."

His parties, he said, are also a reaction to the growing trend of barebacking, where guys engage in anal

intercourse without using condoms.

"How can people be so blind to reality? How can they create a reality where it is okay to completely disrespect yourself, your own body, and the person you are having sex with?" asked Mark. "In the gay world sex has become just a commodity. It is so self-oriented."

So he said he decided to host something different. And it seems to resonate with other guys out there who are looking for an alternative to the drug and barebacking scene.

"The ad sounded very decent and open-minded, it appears to be fairly different from regular sex club or bath house activities ... more about sensual experience and bonding among males," said one party participant, a 29-year-old Asian who has attended two parties so far.

The first two parties, called Sticky Rice, catered to Asian guys who like other Asians. The third event was billed as a sensual slumber party, where guys brought sleeping bags and slept over Saturday night.

The next two parties catered to a diverse crowd of guys, with the latest one the first to restrict participants to a certain age. This month, Mark intends to throw a party for men over 40.

"A third of the guys have never been to a group sex party," Mark said of the guys who attend his parties. "They are terrified of going to something like [a bareback party] because of the ramifications of it."

For details on the next party, look for an announcement to be placed on www.Craigslist.org. ▼

## Migden

◀ page 1

The money represents 15 percent of PRC's \$1.2 million budget this year.

Last month, the agency launched a major fundraising campaign and hired a part-time development consultant to help it raise money. The board is still looking to hire an interim executive director who can help it chart a new financial course.

"We are still on track looking for an experienced turnaround executive director," said McKeever, who has been volunteering her time to fill the position. "I am not saying we have to turn around the agency, it is more that we need to set our course for the future."

The board hopes to find someone by the end of April who would remain through the end of the year. Then a permanent executive director would be hired for 2003. The board also is trying to diversify its funding sources and apply for foundation money.

"We want to diversify our funding more so we are not relying on government funding," said McKeever.

For the time being, the board can now breathe a bit easier and focus more energy on its clients' needs instead of its own.

"We continue to be committed to serving the HIV community by providing benefits counseling and employment services in the most professional and comprehensive manner that we can," said McKeever. ▼

## Ron Hill

◀ page 1

Fred Gardner, spokesman for the DA's office.

"Had the civil case actually gone to trial and allowed new evidence to be introduced, it could have had a different impact," Gardner told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Gardner also noted that the San Francisco DA's office has never had a case dealing with intentional HIV transmission.

Hill could not be reached for comment.

Lister, for now, seemed pleased with the civil ruling.

"This sends a very strong mes-

sage that it's wrong to not take responsibility and inform people of your HIV status," he told reporters after the ruling was made public on Wednesday, March 27.

But some AIDS advocates warned that assigning intent to HIV transmission often works against prevention efforts.

"This case should illuminate that the process of disclosure is not easy, and that people who are negative have a responsibility in HIV prevention as well," said Shana Krochmal, media manager for the Stop AIDS Project. "We continue to be concerned about anything that gives people disincentives for HIV testing and disclosure." ▼

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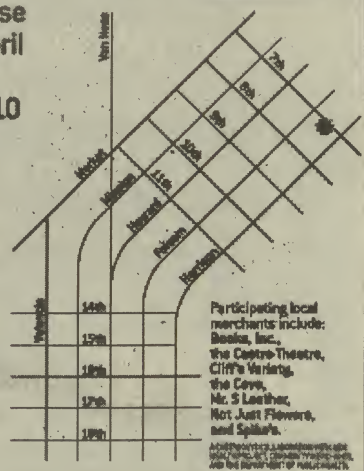
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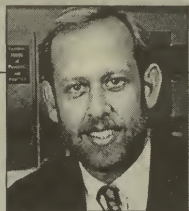
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# Having a habitable home

by Jason Stein, Esq.

The following is an occasional column compiled by the AIDS Legal Referral Panel on issues of concern to people living with AIDS.

Dear AIDS Legal Referral Panel:

My partner and I rent a flat in the city. Although loaded with Victorian charm, the apartment is not aging gracefully. The pipes under the kitchen sink are leaky. We have a bucket underneath the sink to collect the water, but it has gotten so bad that we have to empty the bucket twice a day. I would try to replace the pipes myself, but I'm sure if I took a wrench to them they would crumble away and the landlord would charge us for the damage.

We also have a serious problem with mold. Last Halloween someone broke our bedroom window with a beer bottle. We taped plastic over the hole, but moisture still gets in and now mold has spread from the window along the walls of the bedroom. The smell is disgusting but the worst part of it is that the mold is affecting my health. Last month I had to be hospitalized for PCP (Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia) and my doctor told me that the mold may have further aggravated my lungs.

I'm worried that we'll have to move if these problems aren't fixed. My partner and I are both on SSI and can't afford these repairs. Any suggestions?



ALRP Law

meet in order to be considered habitable. Some of these requirements include:

- Waterproof and weather-protected roof and exterior walls
- Unbroken windows and doors
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- Hot and cold running water
- Sewage disposal
- Working heaters
- Electric lighting and wiring maintained in good condition
- Common areas such as lobbies, hallways, yards, and stairways clean and free from accumulations of debris, filth, rubbish, garbage, rodents, and vermin
- Trash receptacles
- Floors, stairways, and railings maintained in good condition
- There are also other laws requiring

landlords to provide smoke detectors and a working telephone jack.

In addition to the California Civil Code, the California Supreme Court has ruled that in every lease, whether oral or written, there is an "implied warranty of habitability." This warranty of habitability means that your landlord has to provide you with housing that substantially complies with local building and health codes.

### How can I get the repairs made?

The first step in correcting a habitability problem is to alert your landlord in writing. Tell your landlord that it is in his or her interest to correct the problem swiftly since the leak could damage the floors in your unit and the ceiling of the unit below you. You can mention the additional expense of all of that wasted water on the water bill. As for the mold, explain that it poses a serious health hazard and that it must be corrected as soon as possible. You can also mention that state law requires the landlord to make these repairs. Keep copies of any letters you send to your landlord as proof that the landlord had notice of the problems.

If your landlord does not respond within a reasonable amount of time, there are other

options. You can call the local building inspector to make an inspection of your unit and cite the landlord if there are violations.

There are risks, however, in calling the building inspector, especially if you live in an "illegal" unit. If your unit is illegal, the landlord may be cited and have to shut the unit down—which means you would be forced to vacate, so always make sure you are not living in an illegal unit before calling for an inspection.

Another remedy is to file a petition for decrease in services with the San Francisco Rent Arbitration and Stabilization Board. The rent board is located at 25 Van Ness Avenue, and its Web site, [www.ci.sf.ca.us/rentboard/index.htm](http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/rentboard/index.htm) has lots of information of interest to renters in San Francisco.

The Community Board Program is another great resource. They will set up a mediation between you and your landlord and try to work out a solution that is acceptable to all parties. They can be reached at (415) 920-3820. Help can also be found at the Housing Rights Committee at (415) 703-8644, the San Francisco Tenants' Union at (415) 282-6622, and St. Peter's Housing Committee at (415) 487-9203.

If none of the above strategies work, you should seek legal advice from a qualified legal service provider (such as ALRP) to address the situation.

Since 1983, ALRP has provided free and low-cost legal services for people with HIV in the San Francisco Bay Area. ALRP provides direct services and referrals to HIV-sensitive panel attorneys. ALRP can assist you in a variety of matters, including credit and bankruptcy, insurance and employee benefits, wills and powers of attorney, landlord-tenant relations and housing issues, government benefits, employment, confidentiality, and establishing child guardianship. This article is not intended as legal advice for your specific situation. ▼

Do you have any legal questions? Call ALRP at (415) 701-1100 or (510) 451-5353; or write: 1663 Mission Street, Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94103. For specific questions regarding housing call (415) 701-1200, ext. 314. To find out more about ALRP visit the Web site at [www.alrp.org](http://www.alrp.org).

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### It's a party, BCEF style



The Breast Cancer Emergency Fund, an offshoot of San Francisco's popular AIDS Emergency Fund, held its second annual dinner benefit March 29 at the Fort Mason Officer's Club. BCEF provides emergency cash assistance for those living with breast cancer. Event co-chairs Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt, left, Peter Fiske, second from right, and BCEF chair Dan Bernal, right, honored Cathryn Summers, second from left, works with the Southeast Community Center in Bayview-Hunters Point.

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## OBITUARIES

## OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization — and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE, for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

## James David "Jimmy" Henry



Jimmy passed on peacefully at home in Guerneville, California, on February 23, 2002 in the arms of his partner of 14 years, Theodore Lee Fox. Jimmy was born in Coronado, California

on October 14, 1953. He served in the U.S. Navy, and worked in aerospace technology and medical research. He was an AIDS activist and co-founder of "AIDS Guerrilla Clinics." He volunteered at San Diego AIDS Foundation, Indian Center of all Nations, Sonoma County AIDS organizations Face to Face and Food for Thought, obtained AIDS medications for Africans with AIDS, and was involved in National Institute of Health AIDS research.

Born and raised in San Diego, he lived for eight years in San Francisco where he met his loving partner, Ted Fox. They moved to Guerneville, California in 1994 and lived life on the Russian River and in the Guerneville Community. Jimmy will be missed by the Henry, Hesser, Martin and Fox families and all his friends. He was a hero and inspiration to us all. The world is a better place for all of us having known you.

A Celebration of Life will take place April 6, 2002 at Rainbow Cattle Company, Guerneville, California. RSVP to Ted Fox, (707) 869-1885.

## Raymond R. Herth

July 13, 1929 — March 21, 2002



Raymond R. Herth died at home in San Francisco on March 21, 2002. He was 72 years old, born July 13, 1929 in Santa Maria, California. He lived most of his adult life in San Francisco, spending several months every year at his second home in Hawaii.

Mr. Herth served in the US Army during the Korean conflict. In 1965 he founded Herth Real Estate. He pioneered the development of the gay community when in 1972 he moved his growing company to Castro Street where it continues to be one of the Bay Area's top real estate companies.

In 1969 Mr. Herth and his life partner, Loy Elser, purchased a prominent apartment building facing Dolores Park. He helped pave the way for the restoration of the Dolores Heights area which has become one of the City's premiere neighborhoods.

In 1984 Mr. Herth was a founding member of Atlas Savings and Loan, which built an avant-garde home for itself on Castro Street.

Mr. Herth was a great believer in home ownership and generously provided financial help to scores of clients and friends for their purchases. Mr. Herth was a member of the San Francisco Board of Realtors for the duration of his career. He retired in 1994.

He was a generous benefactor for numerous community related issues, particularly AIDS causes.

He is survived by his siblings Henrietta Peterson of Escondido, California, Marian Robbins of Lakeside, California, Belle Janet Tawney of San Diego and H. Lawrence Herth of Reno, Nevada. He was preceded in death by his partner, Loy Elser in 1995.

Mr. Herth was cremated. A private celebration of his life will be held in April. The family suggests memorial donations to the Parkinsons Foundation.

## James Pearce

January 4, 1934 — December 21, 2001

James was a great friend to many in San Francisco, Palm Springs and around the world. He died unexpectedly of heart failure after another set-back with hip surgery. He grew up and attended Drury College in Missouri as well as the



University of Virginia, receiving an MBA. After serving as an officer in the Navy, he went into banking, working in Kansas City, Los Angeles and San Francisco. After retiring from the Federal Reserve Bank where he did loan examination and teaching, he began to spend more time in Palm Springs where he eventually settled down.

He was a regular at Levi/leather bars in the City and especially liked the Edge. All who met him enjoyed his wry sense of humor. He loved travel, made many trips to Europe and especially enjoyed Puerto Vallarta. He would joke that his European excursions had absolutely no redeeming social value (only sleaze). He took special pleasure in hosting friends he had met during his travels and would say, "you have to live in a place like San Francisco to be a host; no one wants to visit Fresno." He enriched our lives and will remain forever in our hearts.

## Ray Romano

Ray Romano, age 75, died at the Zen Hospice in San Francisco on March 20, 2002. He was in the entertainment field in Hollywood in his twenties, and still performed at local and national Atheist conferences.

Until he was stricken with kidney cancer he was President of the Atheists of the San Francisco Region. He was an active member of the San Francisco Atheists and the Gay and Lesbian Atheists and Humanists. He recently received an award from the American Atheists for his activism.

Ray began a show on the local access channel called "Religiously Incorrect." When he became ill he passed this show on to Ken Miller.

A member of the Wagner Society, he also directed operas for the Golden Gate Opera and gave a lecture entitled "Wagner and the Movies."

Romano is survived by his devoted older brother, Frank Romano and partner Joe Liszka of Key West, Florida; niece Kim Romano and grandnephew Cody Romano of Littleton, Massachusetts; and loving friends Kate Talbot, Ken Miller, Charles Bufis, "Ski" Grabowski and Dick Hewetson of the Bay Area.

Ray requested that there be no memorial service. The family suggests donations to the American Cancer Society.



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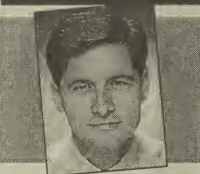
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## Internet censorship law on trial

by Liz Highleyman

Last Monday, March 25, hearings began in a lawsuit challenging the Child Internet Protection Act, a law that requires libraries and public schools to install filtering software to prevent children from accessing "offensive" online material. If the law stands, libraries and schools that fail to install blocking programs could lose federal funds subsidizing Internet access.

Since the 1997 Supreme Court defeat of the Communications Decency Act, legislators have attempted to craft narrower online censorship laws that they hoped would be more likely to pass legal muster. CIPA was signed into law by Bill Clinton in 2000. Proponents of the law believe it has a better chance of being upheld because, rather than simply banning content, it withholds government money. Libraries currently receive more than \$800 million in federal assistance for Internet access.

CIPA should not be confused with the similarly-named Child Online Protection Act (COPA) and Child Pornography Prevention Act (CPPA). COPA would make it illegal to use the Web to transmit material that could be considered "harmful to minors." The Supreme Court heard arguments in that case last November and is expected to render a verdict by June; in the meantime, there is an injunction against the law.

CPPA attempted to prohibit sexually explicit material that depicts young-looking characters (for example, computer-generated images), even if no actual minors are involved in its production.

The CIPA challenge was spearheaded by the American Civil Liberties Union, the American Library Association, and a coalition of library patrons and Web site operators. Named defendants in the case are the Federal Communications Commission and the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences; the defendants' arguments are being presented by the Department of Justice.

Last week's hearings took place before a three-judge panel of the Third U.S. District Court in Philadelphia, the same court that initially ruled against the CDA and COPA before they made their way to the Supreme Court.

As was the case in several earlier online censorship lawsuits, plaintiffs fear that Web sites that include non-explicit gay material, sex education material, and information about reproductive rights — among other controversial topics — could be excluded by unsophisticated filtering programs that block, for example, certain keywords regardless of context. Popular filtering programs include Net Nanny, CyberSitter, and SurfWatch.

According to testimony by Stanford linguistics professor Geoffrey Nunberg, "None of the programs currently available can accomplish their stated task of fil-

tering out sexually explicit material" while leaving access to other material intact.

The Free Expression Policy Project, which completed an analysis of filter effectiveness last fall, concluded that different filtering programs blocked a wide range of non-pornographic Web sites including a United Nations report on HIV/AIDS and a teen education brochure about marijuana published by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

"We have sex education manuals that have sexually explicit pictures similar to some of these," replied Candace Morgan of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library in Washington state when shown examples of pornographic Web sites and asked whether she had objections to such material being subject to filtering. "The Hot-Teen Pussy one? We have books on lesbian sex that could be similar to these, though they don't show teens."

CIPA opponents also argue that filters hinder adult access to legally protected material. According to ACLU attorney Ann Beeson, "Ultimately, the government is trying to dictate what adults can access on the Internet."

If the law is upheld, adult patrons would have to ask librarians to turn off filtering software if they require unblocked Internet access for "bona fide" research.

Regardless of what the District Court decides, both sides expect the law to go before the Supreme Court. ▼

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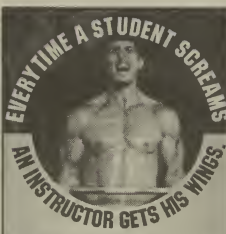


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# Spring, sprung, sproing

By Jim Provenzano

Western Australia just passed a law that grants same-sex couples marriage rights in adoption, in-vitro fertilization, property transfer, medical treatment, and inheritance and death benefits. Legislators also lowered the legal age for gay sex from 21 to 16.

So, whether you're a married couple looking for a honeymoon, or a gay teen jock planning a fabulous coming out, following Gay Games in Sydney, Perth sounds like the perfect vacation spot!

Not that the vote passed without a heated, hateful public debate. Anti-gay groups held rallies and placed newspaper ads suggesting the laws would lead to men having sex with underage boys.

Silly right-wingers. Even pro baseball players are coming out about parochial peepie probings. If they want to stop pederasty, they need go no further than their own church yard.

## Park place

It's draggy, it's runny, it's miles of funny. It's the San Francisco Frontrunners' Little Black Dress Run, this weekend.

Saturday, April 6, at 9 a.m. at Golden Gate Park's Stow Lake, the celebrated frocked foot race, in which contestants of any of many available genders are encouraged to jog in tops worthy of a runway. The fun noir will be followed by brunch, mais oui.

A dance and fashion contest that night (daywear is evening wear!) 8 p.m. at Kim's, will top off the Little Black Dress event. The band Three Hour Tour will perform, so hopefully there'll be plenty of Gingers, Mrs. Howells and a hunky Professor or two. Your \$10 donation benefits Pets Are Wonderful Support.

Frontrunners regularly hosts out-of-drag brunches and other social events for fellow GLBT runners, but this event will include a slew of the West Coast's more Fast and Fabulous.

To find out more, visit [www.sffrontrunners.com](http://www.sffrontrunners.com) or call (415) 668-3771.

## Her name is Rio

The San Francisco Women's Flag Football League is holding its second annual fundraiser this Saturday. Hut, hut, hike it on over to El Rio for a sporting good time.

Saturday, April 6, at El Rio bar, 3158 Mission Street between Cesar Chavez and Valencia Street. Time: 3 p.m.-midnight; \$8 cover includes BBQ from 5-8 p.m.

Huddle up with your local and only Women's Flag Football League in the Bay Area. A fabulous lineup of extremely talented women is ready to make your evening. The lineup includes music by Chi Chi Palace, Boy Skout, Xan Roberti, Judea Eden and Joan Martin, Patty Boss, and many others. Drag King Performances by Ida Ho and Private I, N-Sync. Host for the event is Judea Eden. MCs will be Maureen Brownsey, and Carla Lett. Music provided by DJ Sharon.

A charitable drawing, with lots of fabulous prizes to give away, includes dates with team members. Oh my.

For more info about the league, visit [www.sfwfl.com/](http://www.sfwfl.com/) or contact commissioner Judea Eden at (415) 401-0197 or e-mail



Some days in the park, it's gorgeous: Frocked Frontrunners

judea@microsoft.com.

## Grapple juice

Congratulations to Johnny Almony and David Dodson for placing top honors in Freestyle & Greco Roman competitions for the second weekend in a row.

The Sebastopol tournament last Saturday at Anal High School saw many younger wrestlers disappointed at not being able to wrestle "those older guys from San Francisco." Almony and Dodson, who are among Golden Gate Club members who help organize tournaments, also wrestled each other in Greco, with Dodson winning gold. Almony also frequently officiates matches. These are two of the club's toughest competitors, two of a few out gay men who compete at open local tournaments, and sure bets for medals in Sydney.

Golden Gate made almost \$900 at its Lone Star benefit last Sunday. "They really bought those edgy XXXL black T-shirts with 'Wrestle for Top,'" said Gene Dermody. Wonder why.

The San Francisco State University Far Western in May will be a real opportunity for Golden Gate. For all you guys who claim to think wrestling's "hot," come see the real thing.

Dermody was recently appointed to the Olympics 2012 campaign, along with Federation of Gay Games' Derek Liecny. Along with other notable Bay Area athletes like retired 49er Ronny Lott, a large scale bid is in the works for a Bay Area Olympics. Nice to see the IOC working with the gay sports group, whose founder they originally sued. I'll be readying the guest room for visiting athletes real soon.

## Swimming across the Hudson

Team Tsunami is sending 65 swimmers to Gay Games VI in Sydney. This the largest team they've ever sent to the quadrennial GLBT sports event, and one of the largest contingents going down under this year.

"With a team this big, we're hoping to be very competitive, and put San Francisco back on the map as a swimming powerhouse in IGLA," said team rep and member Tim Lane.

Upcoming events include the Pacific Masters Swimming Short Course Championships next weekend, April 12-14 in Santa Cruz, and the Walnut Creek Masters Invitational, June 7-8.

Tsunami will host the 2003 IGLA Championships at Stanford University August 22-24, 2003. With up to 1200 swimmers, divers, and polo players invading the Bay Area, it'll be quite a queer splash.

For more info, visit [www.sftsunami.org](http://www.sftsunami.org).

To read my article about Team Tsunami Water Polo team, visit [www.gaysports.com](http://www.gaysports.com), the WB of gay sports sites.

## In love with a Jersey girl

In other forms of less practical combat sport, the salacious *New York Post's* "Page Six" gossip column recounts a night in the life of the pugilistic bridge & tunnel set.

Michelle Rodriguez, 23, who portrayed a rising boxer in the award-winning movie *Girlfight*, has been accused of using her fists against another woman at her Jersey City home. Rodriguez pleaded not guilty to charges of simple assault and harassment. She was released on \$2,500 bail. The complaint was brought by a 22-year-old woman who told police Rodriguez attacked her last week. A biting, phone-yanking argument ensued in the actress/boxer's bedroom.

## Field of dreams

What promises to be the big sports event for Gay Pride? The inaugural Mark Kendall Bingham Cup on June 28-29, at Golden Gate Park sure sounds like fun. With Nike and Guinness as major sponsors of the event, you can be sure there'll be a lot of coverage of this event, and some very thick beer.

The competition prize is named in honor of San Francisco Fog Rugby Football Club member Mark Bingham, who died aboard Flight 93 on September 11. Bingham has come to serve as one of the gay heroes of 9/11, and became the subject of tributes by Senator John McCain (R-Arizona) and many others.

The competition will pit most of the world's gay rugby teams against each other. Teams from London, Manchester (England), Buenos Aires, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Seattle, and New York will compete, as well as individual players from Australia, New Zealand, Chicago, Toronto, and Switzerland. San Francisco's Fog team will host. Individual players are encouraged to register to be part of the international team that will compete against the established teams. This event is on the same weekend as the San Francisco Pride Parade.

Matches are 15-a-side, according to the rules of rugby union, and with 20-minute halves. The tournament will be held at the Polo Fields in Golden Gate Park. If you like your men muddy, brawny, and in shorts, this is your Valhalla.

For more info, visit [www.igrab.net](http://www.igrab.net), [www.sffog.org](http://www.sffog.org), or call (415) 297-8163. ▼

For more on other GLBT sports groups, visit [www.sportscomplex.org](http://www.sportscomplex.org).



## CLASSIFIEDS

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## LEGAL NOTICES



## Community Meetings for Redistricting in San Francisco

The San Francisco Elections Task Force on Redistricting invites residents to public meetings about the need to redraw San Francisco supervisorial district lines.

The San Francisco Charter mandates the Election Task Force on Redistricting to be convened by the Board of Supervisors for the purpose of redrawing supervisorial district lines to comply with federal laws and regulations. The Task Force must adopt new district lines to be presented to the Board of Supervisors before April 15, 2002.

The following meetings have been scheduled around the City. There will be additional meetings at City Hall.

Meeting Date and Time	Supervisor District	Location of Community Meeting
April 2 Tuesday 6:30 p.m.	Portola 10/11	Hillcrest Elementary School 810 Silver Avenue
April 3 Wednesday 6 p.m.	Inner Sunset 5/7	Gateway High School 1050 7th Street
April 4 Thursday 6 p.m.	8/9	The Woman's Building 3543 18th Street; #8
April 6 Saturday 1 p.m.	Russian Hill 3/6	Lady Shaw Senior Center 1483 Mason Street
April 9 Tuesday 6:30 p.m.	Entire City	City Hall Room to be Announced
April 10 Wednesday 6:30 p.m.	Entire City	City Hall Room to be Announced
April 11 Thursday 6:30 p.m.	Entire City	City Hall Room to be Announced

The above facilities comply with local and state ADA requirements. Some accessible parking may be provided at various sites. For information on accessible MUNI transit routes, please call 923-6142.

Further information is available at  
[www.sfgov.org/redistricting](http://www.sfgov.org/redistricting), or by phone at 554-7432.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 02-540201**  
In the Matter of the Application of Joseph Michael Endsley. For change of Name. The application of Joseph Michael Endsley for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Joseph Michael Endsley has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Ashlar Ossian Trystan. Now therefore, It is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 23rd day of May, 2002 at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**APRIL 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255788**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Utopia Catering, 947 Geary Street Apt. #11 San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael Adams. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/06/2002. **MAR. 14, 21, 28, APR 4, 2002**

**STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 203310**  
The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Kamei Restaurant Supply. Located at: 507 Clement Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: 3/22/1996. This business was conducted by: a individual: Quyen To Huynh.  
**MAR 14, 21, 28, APR 4, 2002**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 02-540196**  
In the Matter of the Application of Karen Ruth Shore. For change of Name. The application of Karen Ruth Shore for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Karen Ruth Shore has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Karyn Ruth Shore Campbell. Now therefore, It is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 21st day of May, 2002 at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**APRIL 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255560**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Pre-Millennium, 7 Leland Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Michael R. Tenorio and Alicia Tenorio and Betsy Ponce. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/27/2002.  
**MAR. 21, 28, APR 4, 11, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255915**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: S&S Brothers Company, 101 Utah Street #130, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Rabinder Maheshwari. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/12/2002.  
**MAR. 21, 28, APR 4, 11, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255819**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Kamei Restaurant Supply, 507 Clement Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Quyen To Huynh. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 01, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/07/2002.  
**MAR. 14, 21, 28, APR 4, 2002**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 02-540180**  
In the Matter of the Application of Robert Joseph Michalczky. For change of Name. The application of Robert Joseph Michalczky for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Robert Joseph Michalczky has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Robert Theodore Behr. Now therefore, It is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 20th day of May, 2002 at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**APRIL 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255820**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Kamei Household Wares, 606 Clement Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Quyen To Huynh. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 01, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/07/2002.  
**MAR. 14, 21, 28, APR 4, 2002**

## LEGAL NOTICES

City and County of San Francisco



## PROPERTY TAX SECOND INSTALLMENT DUE

Treasurer Susan Leal reminds all San Francisco property owners that the second installment of Secured Property Tax for 2001-2002 must be paid by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10, 2002. Bills were mailed to all property owners last fall at the addresses shown on the tax roll. Online payment is available at the City Services website: <http://www.cityservices.sfgov.org>. If you own property in San Francisco and you do not have a bill, you may obtain one online at the City Services website; call Taxpayer Assistance at (415) 554-4400 to have one sent to you; or visit the City Payment Center in City Hall Room 140.

## ATTENTION ALL HOUSING AUTHORITY (SFHA) RESIDENTS

The San Francisco Housing Authority will hold a Second Citywide SFHA Resident Meeting and a Public Hearing on the Public Housing Authority (PHA) Plan for the next five years. The resident meeting will be held on April 23, 2002, 3:00 P.M., 440 Turk St., Commission Room. The Public Hearing will be on April 30, 2002, 4:00 P.M., 440 Turk St., Commission Room. You are invited to attend both meetings. A copy of the draft of the Annual Submittal will be provided to all elected resident association presidents, and posted at all property offices for review. The Authority is encouraging participation in development of this PHA Plan.

## VACANCIES

Drug Advisory Board has 4 openings. This Board is a citizens advisory body mandated by local ordinance that participates in the planning, evaluation and budgeting of substance abuse services. Appointments to the Advisory Board shall reflect public policy with regard to affirmative action selection of Third World and other appropriate special citizen groups.

All applicants must be residents of San Francisco unless otherwise stated. Interested persons may obtain an application form from the Clerk of the Rules Committee, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Rm. 244, San Francisco, CA 94102. Additional information and an application may be obtained by accessing the city's web site: <http://www.sfgov.org>

## SAN FRANCISCO HOUSING AUTHORITY - SOLICITATION NO. 02-730-RFP-016

The Housing Authority is soliciting Requests for Proposals from qualified firms (must be a Citrix Gold Partner) to provide procurement services and implementation of Citrix. Services provided by the selected vendor will include all hardware, software and licensing required to implement Citrix at 30 sites on 300 desktops around the City of San Francisco and remotely. See Contract Announcement on the agency's website at [www.sfha.org](http://www.sfha.org). Deadline for submission of proposals is 2:00 p.m., April 19, 2002, with April 5, 2002 as last day for submission of any questions. Requests for a copy of the Request for Proposal may be made by fax to (415) 554-1258.

The City and County of San Francisco encourages public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions.

### The SAN FRANCISCO REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY is soliciting statements of qualifications from organizations to:



- 1) Administer a 12 month Rental Assistance Program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) program serving people living with HIV/AIDS in San Francisco; and
- 2) Provide housing advocacy supportive services to subsidy recipients and prospective subsidy recipients.

The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) includes separate scopes of work for the rental subsidy administration and the supportive service components. An RFQ Respondent may bid on either or both components. Although the HOPWA Program is not a HUD Section 8 program, it is modeled after the Section 8 program, while maximizing the flexibility allowed under the HOPWA Program regulations.

Responses to this RFQ will be accepted only from those Respondents who have registered with the Agency by picking up an RFQ packet and providing contact information including fax number and/or e-mail address before 2:00 p.m. on April 19, 2002.

For RFQ Packets Call (415) 749-2478  
San Francisco Redevelopment Agency  
770 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Contact: Pam Sims (415) 749-2417

Packets available Monday, April 8, 2002 at 9:00 a.m. through Friday, April 19, 2002 at 2:00 p.m.

Pre submittal conference Monday, April 15, 2002 at 2:00 p.m.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 02-540195**  
In the Matter of the Application of Samuel Solomon Kraut. For change of Name. The application of Samuel Solomon Kraut for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Samuel Solomon Kraut has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Samuel Solomon Campbell. Now therefore, It is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 21st day of May, 2002 at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**APRIL 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255971**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Green Wave Consulting Services, 1825 Chestnut Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual signed Douglas Messersmith Wasmuth. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 13, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/13/2002.  
**MAR. 21, 28, APR 4, 11, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255951**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Night Crawler Production, 54 Chicago Way, SF, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Anthony Gallio. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 3/12/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/12/2002.  
**MAR. 28, APR 4, 11, 18 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 256267**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Victor's Lighting 2166 Palou Avenue, SF, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Richard Stopolani. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 3/25/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/25/2002.  
**MAR. 28, APR 4, 11, 18 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255890**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: A Concept, 386 Precita Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Ernest E. Frost. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 11, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/11/2002.  
**MAR. 21, 28, APR 4, 11, 2002**



## LEGAL NOTICES



City and County of San Francisco  
Department of Human Services  
Request for Proposal #214

Dear Potential Applicant:

The City and County of San Francisco, Department of Human Services (SFDHS) announces its intent to seek qualifications from individuals, agencies or organizations to provide advocacy services to clients in Shelters and Transitional Housing Programs.

The contract period will run from July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2004 for a contract amount ranging from \$70,000 to \$80,000 per year.

An RFQ packet may be picked up at SFDHS, Office of Contract Management, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 300, on or after Monday, March 25, 2002. Office hours are from 8:30 AM to 5 PM. RFQ packets will also be available on the Internet at <http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/purchase>, click "BIDS and Contracts" and then the "Consultants and Professional Services" link.

The Respondents' Conference will be held on Monday, April 8, 2002 at 1:30 p.m., at 170 Otis St., 8th Floor Conference Room, San Francisco, California. For further information, please call Sin Yee Poon at (415) 557-5644. Due date for responses will be Monday, April 15, 2002 at 5:00 PM.

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 255904

The following person(s) are doing business as: Two B Restaurant And Bar, 598 Second Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Harvey Rifkin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/11/2002.

MAR. 21, 28, APR 4, 11, 2002

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 256006

The following person(s) are doing business as: Jin Company, 645 Larkin Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jinsung Zhang. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 14, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/14/2002.

MAR. 21, 28, APR 4, 11, 2002

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 255833

The following person(s) are doing business as: Yoga San Francisco, 2269 Chestnut Street #207 San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an co-partners signed Nancy Giffos. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/08/2002.

MAR. 28, APR 4, 11, 18 2002

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 256256

The following person(s) are doing business as: DPM Tutoring 1500 Noriega Street # 110 SF, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael Moy. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 3/25/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/25/2002.

MAR. 28, APR 4, 11, 18 2002

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 255461

The following person(s) are doing business as: SF Skincare, 2000 Van Ness Avenue Ste 509, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Shari Spakes, manager. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on November 16, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/25/2002.

MAR. 14, 21, 28, APR 4, 2002

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 256301

The following person(s) are doing business as: Better Building, 1578 Innes Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Greg Freeman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 8/08/98. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/26/2002.

APR 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 256337

The following person(s) are doing business as: ILab Enterprises, 1519 Oak Street #7, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jason Albert Daniel Lee. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 3/27/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/27/2002.

APR 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002



## JOBS OFFERED

### Community Health Outreach Worker Spanish Speaking \$2717 - 3396/month

San Mateo County AIDS Program seeks energetic and knowledgeable outreach worker to provide a link between clinical practitioners/social service providers and clients in the community. Requires knowledge of relevant community resources and experience providing outreach for HIV/AIDS prevention to diverse communities. Community health worker training is desired. HIV counseling and testing training and certification is helpful. Fluency in both Spanish and English is required. Full-time position with excellent benefits package! For an application packet, call Employee & Public Services at (650) 363-4343 or apply online at [www.co.sanmateo.ca.us](http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us). file by 4/11/02

## SHIFT MANAGER for gay club

Long-term, 30 hrs/wk, weekend work required. Fun, upbeat workplace. Good pay, medical/dental benefits. Experience in customer service and staff supervision required. Responsible for cash handling, record keeping, decision/problem solving. Must be dependable, friendly, team player, and have excellent communication skills. Mac expert, multilingual a plus. Opportunity for management development. E-mail resume to hp2120@hotmail.com or fax to 415-255-0210

## DENTAL FRONT DESK

Full time M-F Union Sq, SF Dental experience required. Fax cover ltr & resume to 986-3299 or email to: [DentalPositionAvailable@yahoo.com](mailto:DentalPositionAvailable@yahoo.com)

Caregivers wanted for elderly care \$10-\$11 an hour. Live in and hourly available. Car is a plus. Call David at 415-273-1497. CNA's & HHA's

## CASTRO/LUXURY B&amp;B

Seeking bright, hardworking person for part-time housekeeping/laundry position. Strong cleaning skills and great attitude a must. Weekends required \$12-\$14, plus tips hr. to start. Apply to Brian @ 520 Church St. between 11-3 PM.

Painter with experience on scaffold. Pt time, flex schedule 552-3542

## ADULT JOBS OFFERED

REAL LIFE GAY MALE COUPLES wanted for gay adult video. In shape, gd. looking 18-40, share your special love with the world. Call 415-255-0446

Hot/Hung Naked Guys Factory Video is looking for hot, horny guys, 18-35, In-shape, very good-looking for gay videos. Got what it takes? • 415-255-0446

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### LARKIN Larkin Street Youth Services

Founded in 1984 we are guided by our mission: "to create a continuum of services that inspires youth to move beyond the streets. We will nurture potential, promote dignity, and support bold steps by all."

Come help get kids off the street for good!

Currently we are looking for the following positions in our Avenues to Independence (ATI) program. ATI is a unique transitional living program for young adults, ages 18 to 23. The program is designed to assist youth in making a successful transition to independent life by offering housing for up to eighteen months, education, career counseling and life skills development.

**Case Manager:** MSW or MA in related field (Counseling, Psychology) required. Ability to work with homeless and runaway young adults. Work with area businesses and community leaders to develop referrals to young adults interested in ending street life, and participating in Vocational Training Program.

**Counselor:** BA Degree preferred or three years of experience required. One-year previous experience working with homeless and runaway youth. While working to sustain a multi-cultural environment provide guidance, information and counseling. Needs assessment for food and clothing needs, make appropriate referrals.

All positions are full time and receive medical, dental, vision, longterm disability, life, legal, and employee assistance plan. Three weeks vacation accrual in first year, twelve agency holidays annually.

Larkin Street Youth Services is an equal opportunity employer. We place a high value on workforce diversity.

Send cover letters and resumes to:  
LSYS-HR 1044 Larkin Street San Francisco, CA 94109  
Fax: (415) 749-3838  
No phone calls please.

## Legal Secretary \$100K

APRIL FOOLS!  
But now that we have your attention:

The California Attorney General's Office is accepting applications for legal secretarial positions in the San Francisco and Oakland offices.

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### Deputy Executive Director, Housing & Community Development

\$114,166 - \$138,762 D.O.Q.

The San Francisco Redevelopment is seeking to fill a key management position to oversee the divisions of Housing, Development Services, Planning, and Architecture & Engineering. The person in this position will also develop, plan and implement goals and objectives for the assigned divisions consistent with the Agency's adopted organizational mission; will participate in complex negotiations; will support and supplement the liaison role of the Executive Director; and provide highly complex assistance to the Executive Director.

The ideal candidate shall have a background in complex commercial and residential real estate transactions; urban economic development, public/business administration, or real estate finance with substantial senior level management and administrative experience.

A Bachelor's degree is required; a graduate degree is desired. The position will remain open until filled, please submit a detailed resume ASAP. Those applicants appearing to best meet the Agency's requirements will be invited to interview.

Apply to: Human Resources Manager  
770 Golden Gate Avenue  
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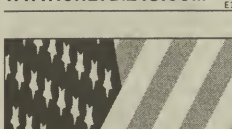
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Gay Couple seek responsible roommate in Martinez Pleasant Hill area \$650+util. 925-372-7088

\$750+ Util. Share home in Bernal Heights with GM 49 LgBdrm+1/2BA deck garden W/D view smkr ok. Be neat, responsible 40+ GM 826-8418

Share Lg. EastBay 2BR condo, fully-furn w/GWM, seeks same: neat, clean, emp. Rent: \$700, 1st, last + dep. Near BART/JAC+580. Pk incl. No drugs, Smk, Pets. Avail now. (510) 278-2893

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## SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

Thru SF Mayor's Office of housing 400 Beale near Folsom First-time Buyer only Income and Resale restrictions. Pacific Marketing 415-512-8300 Prospective buyers must register at the Sales Office by April 22nd.





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## LEGAL NOTICES

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 256373

The following person(s) are doing business as Spitfire Rose, 1790 San Jose Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Raean Biagini. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/28/2002. APR 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 256245

The following person(s) are doing business as Nicole Renee, 1825 Pine Street #5, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Nicole R. Mossman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/22/2002. APR 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 256358

The following person(s) are doing business as: Anton Meeting Management, 101 Madrone Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Steven Anton. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/13/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/27/2002. APR 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 256357

The following person(s) are doing business as: Regents Cab Company, 1301 Sixth Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Steven Anton. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/13/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/27/2002. APR 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

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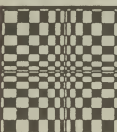
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**Shocking the unshockable French**  
*Vincent Gallo in a new horror film from*  
*'Beau Travail' director Claire Denis.*  
**page 33**

**'O mio babbino caro'**  
*Italian arias by soprano*  
*Cristina Gallardo-Domas.*  
**page 31**



**Road to nowhere**  
*'Y Tu Mama Tambien,'*  
*Mexican teens on wheels.*  
**page 32**



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

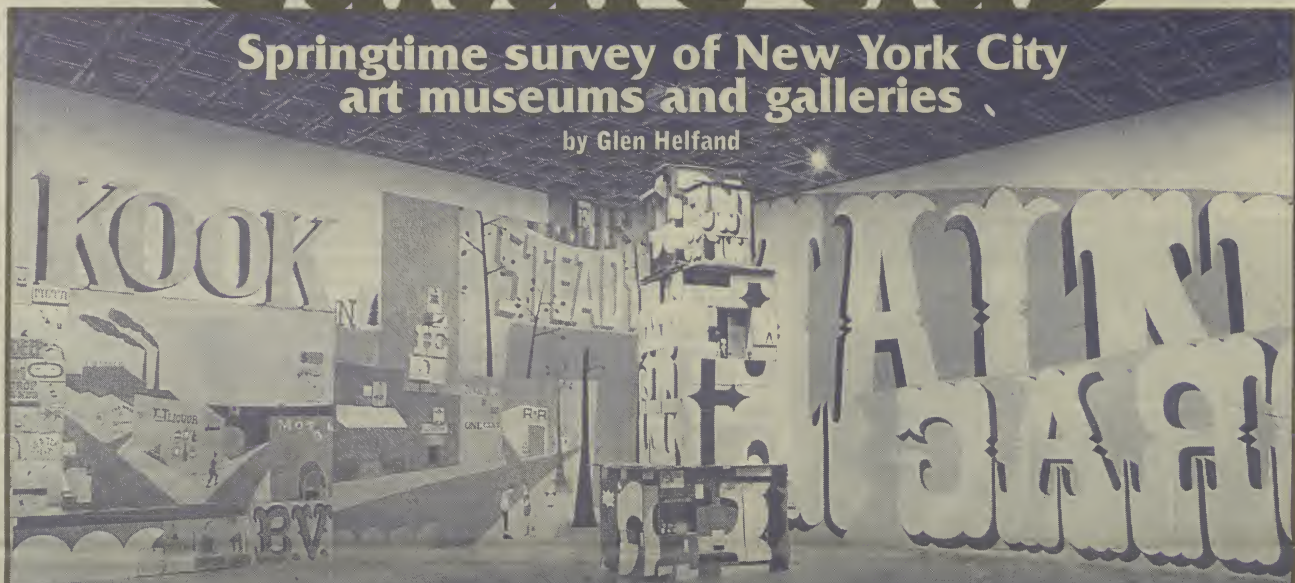
**BAY AREA REPORTER**

Vol. 32 • No. 14 • 4 April 2002

## Culture club

**Springtime survey of New York City  
 art museums and galleries**

by Glen Helfand



*Main Drag (2001) by Margaret Kilgallen, installed at the 2002 Whitney Biennial*

**S**pring break always conjures up visions of perfectly muscled, barely dressed MTV coeds dancing, volleybaling or engaging in reality-show shenanigans on Caribbean shores. Alas, I marked the season of rebirth with a jaunt to NYC, engaging in erudite indoor sports — that is, hitting the current museum and gallery offerings. After all, it was hardly bathing-suit weather in Manhattan, going from balmy to snowy in a matter of moments. Even if post-9-11 Manhattan is still a bit dazed and confused, you could say there was something warm and fortifying in all that culture.

The trendy Whitney Biennial (through May 26) was

on the top of my list. Since this year the show is primarily curated by Larry Rinder, fresh from stints at the Berkeley Art Museum and CCAC, there's more Bay Area representation than usual, something that one hopes is a source of pride. (Rinder, by the way, has been looking dashing in all those glossy magazine spreads lately, like in the March issue of *W*. "The '70s was such an interesting time to grow up gay; it had such a musky quality to it," he's quoted, admitting that in 1980 he worked as a busboy at Studio 54, wearing "cutoff jeans and ripped T-shirts.")

The Biennial, intended to present the current pulse of American art, is a show that is always controversial. My theory is that it's the closest thing the art world has to the

Oscars, and like that pageant, there's always something to quibble with, get excited over and gossip about. For the sake of community spirit, I was really rooting for this year's edition. In the end, it's a pleasant though unaffectionate hodgepodge, one neutralized by odd selections of sometimes wonderful, sometimes inert works by over 100 artists working in all sorts of forms. It's organized by floor with loose, humanistic themes: Beings, Tribes, and Spaces.

Rinder's show is an attempt to reflect a decentralized art world. Artists were selected from locales other than the usual New York-Los Angeles axis, and the film, video,

**page 29 ►**

## Whither goeth the Rhino?

**Artistic Director Doug Holsclaw  
 talks gay Theatre Rhinoceros**

by Mark Mardon

**O**n the map of gay San Francisco, Theatre Rhinoceros is a sacred community space. Five times a year in the old Redstone Building it calls home, the company mounts mainstage productions, with more shows in the downstairs Studio, and the faithful come to witness. At these times, the grizzled old gal radiates gay splendor.

For nearly 25 years, cutting-edge queer theater has found a home at Theatre Rhinoceros, beginning in the heady optimism and fervent activism of the gay lib era, brazening through the dark years of the plague, lit by a spirit of defiance, and finally emerging again into the light of new hope. Or would that be the twilight of old hope?

This is the question of the moment as I meet with Theatre Rhinoceros Artistic Director Doug Holsclaw

one recent afternoon at his Rhino turf in the Mission. We sit facing one another downstairs in the emptiness and shadows of the Studio, his chair perched on a low stage platform, higher than mine, the difference in our heights emphasizing his regal nellyness. It's just us, a microphone and digital device recording his every lisp, and a file-folder's worth of images I've brought along, culled from a newspaper archive, documenting the many years of Theatre Rhinoceros productions. To get to the future, we'll need to review the past.

"I don't want to be an isolationist or separatist," Holsclaw declares at the outset, "but I do think there is something to having our own home," a place where queer stage artists can be themselves. He adds: "I feel like we're not about straight approval."

In his breathless, breathtaking way, Holsclaw justifies his theater's existence: "If Theatre Rhinoceros

**page 27 ►**



SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



by Roberto Friedman  
and Mary Mandible

**R**ound about the time the BBC camera crew arrived to film *Guerrilla Queer Bar* taking over the bar and patio at Zeitgeist in the Mission last Thursday night, Out There turned to the dwindling group of regulars at the end of the bar and asked if they were prepared for the gay guy invasion.

"I had no frigging idea!" protested one rock 'n' roll biker guy.

"I heard they take over yuppie bars in the Marina," added a biker chick next to him. "It's a nice night, and I wish they'd just go somewhere else!"

Indeed, a phalanx of GQB types had occupied every picnic table and lounging area in Zeitgeist's considerable outback. A gaggle of queers had come in costume for their moment in the BBC sun, wearing derby hats and ascots, and carrying a sign which read, "SF Homos to Britain: £ [Pound] Forever!" OT, unsure of



American Warwolf Dick Cheney

whether this was a statement on European monetary policy or an endorsement of the restorative powers of Viagra, hid behind our Prince Will mask.

On the topic of that crazy United Kingdom, thanks go with chips to our chesty chum in merry olde England who sent along this classic image of scary old **Dick 'Lon' Cheney's** mug with fangs. This was the cover of London's *Daily Mirror* during

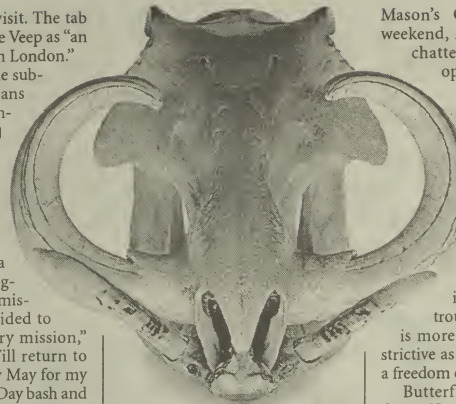
Dick's Continental visit. The tab cleverly described the Vesp as "an American Warwolf in London."

While we're on the subject of Americans abroad, erstwhile London-dweller **Ggreg Taylor** has announced his impending return to the colonies. "As much as I had wished to find the spirit of bohemia alive and well in England, I was terribly mistaken, and have decided to abort my exploratory mission," Taylor e-mailed. "Will return to your fair city in early May for my traditional Mothers' Day bash and to reestablish residency. I'm clicking my heels right now, looking forward to replacing my bangers and mash with fruits and nuts."

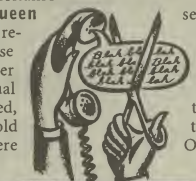
In its obit for Britain's dear departed **Queen Mum**, the *LA Times* recalled her bawdy sense of humor: "To her mostly homosexual servant staff, she asked, 'Are there any old queens down there who'll fetch a gin and tonic for an old queen up here?'"

#### Dead heads and Dada

Last week the California Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park opened its *Skulls* exhibition, so Out There brought our own numbskull to the unveiling of 1,500 braincases. Academy re-



Warthog skull on display at the California Academy of Sciences



#### Out There

searcher **Dr. Nina G.**

**Jablonski** gave a walk-through, concentrating on the importance of skulls to science and evolutionary studies. For OT, they remain powerful aesthetic objects. There are skulls on display from an array of humans, warthogs, giraffes,

sea lions, and a tiny Pekinese that looks alien.

Maybe it's something about a skull's otherworldly grin that captivates. The show also contains reproductions of famous skulls in art history, from **Georgia O'Keeffe's** horseheads to **Andy Warhol's** memento mori. There's even some tasteful **Grateful Dead** memorabilia. (Through late 2003; call 750-7145.)

The Academy employs legions of carrion beetles to eat the flesh off specimen skulls. This reminded us we were late for lunch at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor, currently showing *Dreaming with Open Eyes*, the **Vera, Silvia and Arturo Schwarz** Collection of Surrealist and Dada Art. No movement or school in art history has entered the language quite as smoothly as the Surrealist. Even a teenager will as easily call a movie or a moment surreal as awesome. At the Legion are some seminal works by **Dali, Miró, Ernst, Duchamp** and others. Bondage mavens will enjoy studying *Vierge non apprivoisée* (*Untamed Virgin*), an assemblage with mannequin and chain by **Man Ray**. Ray also took a photograph of Duchamp dressed up in high drag as his alter-ego **Rose Sélavy**. (Through April 28; call 750-3614.)

#### Company men

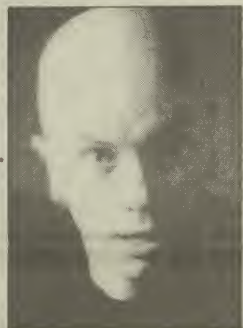
To get us in the mood for **Company Chaddick's** four nights of performances at Fort

Mason's Cowell Theater this weekend, April 4-7, Out There chatted with a couple of openly gay dancers in the company while they chilled during their rehearsal break.

Dancer **John Butterfield**, 41, is in his last season with Chaddick after seven years. He started with ballet and musical theatre, and ended up in a modern dance troupe in college. "Modern is more expressive, not as restrictive as classical ballet. There's a freedom of expression I like."

Butterfield is featured in the dance *Hard Drive*. "When Cheryl [Chaddick, choreographer] started the piece, we were losing spaces rapidly to dot-commers, and she wanted to examine how people behave in the workplace. It's not modern dance with a big M. Even if you don't know anything about modern dance, you can come and enjoy it."

"Cheryl prefers to work with mature dancers, because they bring their life experience to the material. There's nothing quite like the joy of dancing with the same people for seven years. Modern dancers don't always get that."



Dancer Ashby: Anything goes

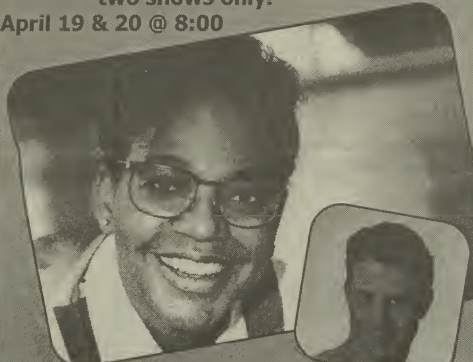
"Modern dance is my passion!" declared dancer **Blane Ashby**, 36. "There's less restriction of movement, and almost anything goes." A Bay Area native currently in his fourth season with Chaddick, Ashby dances in *Hard Drive*, *The Sendoff* and *Liquid Gold*.

Both dancers assured us that being gay was completely accepted in the dance world. "There's only one straight boy in the company, and he's definitely in the minority!" said Butterfield. "I hear there's a lot more heteros in ballet these days."

Company Chaddick appears as part of the In Dance performance series at Cowell Theater, Fort Mason, Thurs.-Sun., April 4-7, 8 p.m. For tickets (\$18-\$22), call (415) 345-7575. ▼

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The Upper Side of the Sky, 1944, by Kay Sage, at the Legion of Honor

Vera, Silvia, Arturo Schwarz Collection, Israel Museum



# The last days of disco

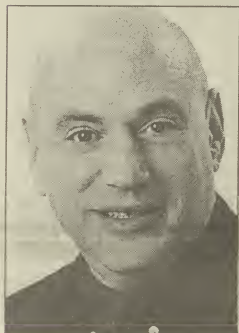
## TheatreWorks' 'Kept' set in Studio 54

by Richard Dodds

The man who composed the score for *Dreamgirls* has written a new musical that looks back at the last days of the pre-AIDS party. The setting is a place called only The Studio — with "54" an understood part of its name. The leading character is "a goddess of the scene,"

composer Henry Krieger said. And then she gets sick.

"Have you ever seen *Camille*?" Krieger asked during a phone interview. "That's the story." The name of the new musical is *Kept*, and its world-premiere production is under the TheatreWorks banner at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts. TheatreWorks mostly makes its home there, and it's become a theatrical second home to Krieger and his partners as well.



Kept composer Henry Krieger

*Kept* comes after *Everything's Ducky*, another Krieger premiere at TheatreWorks, which itself came about when Krieger flew out to see the TheatreWorks production of *Side Show*. TheatreWorks was one of the first regional theaters to offer the musical after its disappointing Broadway run, and Krieger liked what he saw.

*Kept*, opening April 10, is considered a Broadway contender, at least by its creators, but the TheatreWorks production should not be considered an out-of-town tryout. "It's an out-of-town laboratory," Krieger amended, "in which to realize the show as fully as it deserves to be realized, which we feel is quite fully. This has been a good environment in which to do your thing."

Bill Russell, who wrote the book and lyrics for *Side Show* and *Kept*, got his big break writing *Pageant*, a hit with both camp and crossover audiences. They've lured some New York names to Mountain View, including Christine Noll (*Jekyll & Hyde*), who plays the faltering heroine, and director Scott Schwartz (*Bat Boy: The Musical*).

Krieger rejected the notion that *Kept* might be a blast-from-the-past enterprise like *Mamma Mia!* The sound of Krieger's music was inspired by the disco sounds of the late '70s and early '80s. "It's a very danceable score," he said, "but it's also very emotional."

Krieger's score for *Dreamgirls*, of course, was inspired by the Motown sounds as it followed a Supremes-like group on its rise to a tarnished stardom. It was Krieger's first Broadway show, and

it turned out to be a magical confluence of talent, including director Michael Bennett, playwright Tom Eyon, and emerging star Jennifer Holliday.

"It was a good time for everybody," Krieger said. But the good times did not last. Bennett and Eyon both succumbed to AIDS, while Krieger's life and career tumbled for the better part of a decade.

"It was more than I was emotionally ready for," Krieger said of the sudden success. And when he followed up *Dreamgirls* with *The Tap Dance Kid*, another musical focusing on black characters, he got pigeonholed — and ignored.

"Let's just say I fell off the radar screen for about 10 years," he said. "It was difficult. But I think God was testing me and refining me and getting me to know what's important in my life. Kind of de-'80s-ing me."

Krieger consciously downsized his life, and began conversing with God "to make sure I'm the kind of person who gives light and not egoistic conundrums." He now shares his life with a TV- and film actor who will remain nameless.

"You'd know his face," Krieger said. "But he has his career, and it's not my place to mess with that." Next up for Krieger is a musical based on the movie *Moonstruck*, which may be the project that returns him to Broadway — if *Kept* doesn't get there first. And if neither does, he's prepared for that, too.

"I've taken my knocks, had a bloody nose and a split lip here and there," Krieger said. "But I'm sort of a congenital optimist."

For more information on *Kept*, running through May 5, call (650) 903-6000.

### Short scenes

• Nicky Silver's *The Altruist*, a play about gay radicals, a runaway hustler, and a gun-wielding soap opera actress, opens April 9 at Actors Theatre of San Francisco. The theater also staged Silver's *Raised in Captivity*, the best-known of the gay playwright's quirky comedies. Call 296-9179 for ticket info.

• Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* collides with a "high gay concept" in a production opening April 5 in Theatre Rhino's Studio. A group calling itself *Creatus* is behind this reimagining that turns Vladimir and Estragon into drag queens, Pozzo into a leather daddy, and Lucky into his slave. Call 861-5079.

• *The Very Worst of Varla Jean Merman*, actually a "best of" show, opens April 6 at New Conservatory Theatre Center. Varla Jean is the inspired creation of Jeffrey Roberson, who uses song, video, and Cheeze-Wiz to reveal the underbelly of stardom. Call 861-8972.

• 42nd Street Moon is the latest area theater to market a designated night during each of its productions for LGBT audiences. Moon's "Saturday Night Out" will make its debut on April 20 with a 6 p.m. performance of *By Jupiter*, followed by a post-show reception. Call 255-8207.

• *By Jupiter* is part of the centenary celebration of Richard Rodgers' birth, an occasion that will also lead Wesla Whitfield to offer an evening of Rodgers songs at Herbst Theatre on April 15. The



42nd Street Moon's *By Jupiter*

concert is a benefit for San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum. Call 255-4800.

• Musical numbers from nominated shows of the past year are the featured attraction at the San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle's annual awards ceremony. The open-to-the-public event takes place April 8 at the Palace of Fine Arts. Call (925) 866-9599 for tickets. ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached at [BARstage@aol.com](mailto:BARstage@aol.com).

## Theatre Rhino

◀ Arts cover

didn't exist, *Barebacking* wouldn't have existed. I feel real strongly about that."

Playwright John Fisher's *Barebacking* "was a big production with great productions values and really controversial subject matter. Nobody else touched this show." Holsclaw beams with the pride of a proud parent, mother and father mixed in one.

He lives and breathes theatre, and the more in-your-face queer the play, the more he seems to like it. "I must say I don't think we get a lot of credit for being as adventurous as we are."

There's a devilishness in him. He loves controversy. He also loves to tout the sheer variety of Rhino presentations. "We are not a theatre that does just one thing. We just did Noel Coward, now we're doing a women's prison comedy, then we're doing a gay version of *Of Mice and Men*. This is following Marga Gomez's *Twelve Days of Cochina*, and *Sirena*, *Queen of the Tango*, about a drag queen tango dancer." The last, he shakes his head, met with an unlucky fate, despite Matthew Martin delivering "the best performance he ever gave." Alas, the play opened on September 9, 2001. Its life was cut short by the bombing. The audience stayed home — a pity, he sighs, "because it was just wonderful!"

### Wiggle zone

Continuing through the photos, Holsclaw comes upon an image of sexy guys baring all that counts to the Rhino audience: "This was a hot little comedy we



Not just a punchline: Holsclaw

did in the Studio," *Out Calls Only*. "When the first nudie-boy shows started coming around, I said: 'Let's beat them at their own game. Let's write something that's really sexy, where sex isn't the punchline.' It wasn't like, oh, *Naked Boys Singing*. 'Isn't it funny when we wiggle our dicks?'"

Speaking of dicks brings him to Ronnie Larsen, director of *10 Naked Men* and other controversies: "Ronnie Larsen, you know, is a nut, but he's talented. I've got to give it to him. I always say I'll never work with him again, and I always do. He's coming back next year."

Holsclaw remains gently miffed at Larsen for a nasty trick he pulled in the production of *Girl Meets Girl*: "He lied to me and told me it was [by] a woman playwright! It was really Ronnie using an assumed name. I took all sorts of heat in the press, and I honestly got tricked!"

He recalls another play that

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**"FUNNY AND INTELLIGENT FILM... COMPLETE WITH NOT-SO-SUBTLE HOMEROOTIC OVERTONES."**  
Dan Avery, *OUT Magazine*

**"RAUCOUS! AND RAUNCHY!"**  
Dennis Dermody, *PAPER*

**Y TU MAMÁ**

**"FAST FUNNY UNAFRAID OF SEXUALITY."**  
Elvis Mitchell, *THE NEW YORK TIMES*

**"WILD! EROTIC! PROVOCATIVE!"**  
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Studio star Lana Turner was a top World War II pinup.

# Tenacious blonde

## The Hollywood career of Lana Turner

by Tavo Amador

Lana Turner's stardom lasted 30 years, an especially remarkable achievement because she made few good films, and her performances were usually trashed by critics. Film historians have not treated her any better, yet for decade after decade she kept on working. Pundits missed the point: Turner connected with audiences, first with men, but later with women, enabling her to continue long after her MGM pin-up days were over. Perhaps her secret was an intuitive understanding that films involve image, and she perfected one of ageless, smoldering, blonde desirability. Her daughter, Cheryl Crane, will discuss Turner's career at the Geary Theater on Monday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m., part of ACT's *Cool Hollywood Blondes* series.

Born Julia Jean Mildred Frances "Judy" Turner (1921) in

Idaho, she was an infant when the family moved to San Francisco. Her father was murdered when she was 10, and mother eventually took Judy to Los Angeles. *Hollywood Reporter* columnist Billy Wilkerson spotted the nubile teenager sitting on a stool, sipping a soda in a drugstore (although not Schwab's), and asked if she'd like to be in pictures. She replied she would, and one of Hollywood's most enduring discovery stories was created. He arranged a screen test with producer Mervyn LeRoy at Warners, who changed her name to Lana, and made her an extra in *A Star Is Born*, before cladding her in a tight sweater and having her walk provocatively in *They Won't Forget*, then giving her another small role facing *The Great Garrick* (all 1937). She had bits in *The Adventures of Marco Polo* and *Four's a Crowd* (1938). Wilkerson trumpeted her as "The Sweater Girl," but Warners was unimpressed, letting LeRoy take

her when he moved to MGM.

That studio made her blonde then cast her (and Judy Garland) in Mickey Rooney's *Love Finds Andy Hardy*, put her in *Rich Man, Poor Girl*, and sent her to *Dramatic School* (all 1938). She tested for Scarlett O'Hara (poorly), then was *Calling Dr. Kildaire*, became one of *Those Glamour Girls* and a *Dancing Co-Ed* (all 1939), before being one of *Two Girls on Broadway* and *We Who Are Young* (1940). Next year was better. She joined Garland and Hedy Lamarr as a hopeful *Ziegfeld Girl*, playing James Stewart's selfish, doomed love. She had originally been cast as the tart opposite Spencer Tracy's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, but Ingrid Bergman insisted on switching, so Turner became the unlikely ingenue. Then came the enjoyable *Honky Tonk* with Clark Gable, and *Johnny Eager* with Robert Taylor, both hits.

### Top girl

MGM issued masses of glamour stills of Turner, making her a top World War II pinup, and in 1942 reteamed her with Gable in the successful *Somewhere I'll Find You*. Then she practiced *The Youngest Profession*, was *Slightly Dangerous*, and guested in *Du Barry Was a Lady* (all 1943).

Her first marriage, to band-leader Artie Shaw, ended in divorce, and she wed restaurateur Stephen Crane, giving birth to Cheryl in 1943. She insisted *Marriage Is a Private Affair* (1944), then instructed audiences to *Keep Your Powder Dry* before spending a *Weekend at the Waldorf* (both 1945), in Joan Crawford's old part in this remake of *Grand Hotel*, with Ginger Rogers, Walter Pidgeon, and Van Johnson. It was a success, and Turner had three more smashes: smoldering as the ambitious, murderous Cora in 1946's *The Postman Always Rings Twice* with John Garfield (earning good reviews), living on *Green Dolphin Street*, and loving Tracy's *Cass Timberlane* (both 1947). But her *Homecoming* with Gable (1948) wasn't the expected hit. She ended that year in the entertaining and popular *The Three Musketeers* as Milady, particular good when stabbing June Allyson's noble Constance and escaping jail.

George Cukor gave her *A Life of Her Own* (1950), one of his poorest films and a flop, as was *Mr. Imperium* (1951), a misguided attempt to make a movie star out of opera's Enzo Pinza. Dubbed, she was Lehar's *The Merry Widow* to scalding reviews, but ended 1952 in Vincente Minnelli's superb *The Bad and the Beautiful*, playing megalomaniac director Kirk Douglas's greatest film discovery. "You acted badly, you moved clumsily, but the point is every eye in the audience was on you," he shouts — an accurate summation of her allure. It is her best movie.

Next year, she enjoyed *Latin Lovers*, then was *The Flame and the Flesh* before being *Betrayed* by Gable (1954), and tempting *The Prodigal* (1955), which ended her tenure at MGM. At Warners, she sailed on John Wayne's *Sea Chase*, improbable as a Nazi spy. Twentieth offered Richard Burton and *The Rains of Ranchipur*, a romance about an upper-class woman and an Indian untouchable who becomes a doctor — a

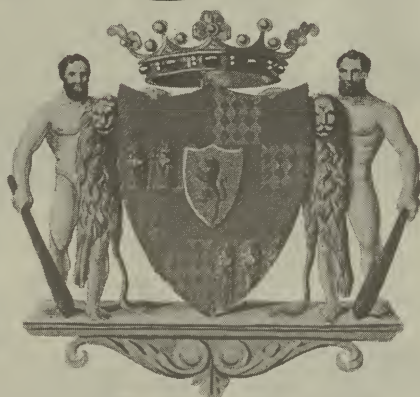
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## ART

## NYC museums

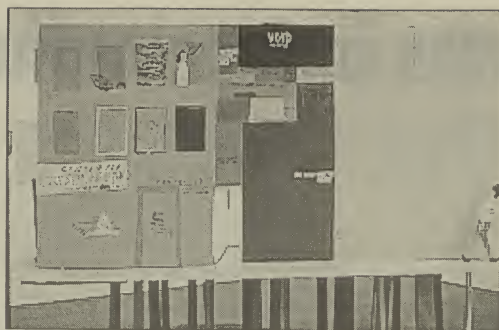
## ◀ Arts cover

sound and Web projects are effectively brought in from the media margins. In theory, it's a great idea, but in practice, well, it's just off-center. Still, there are some fine, even poignant things to be seen here.

One of the most haunting works in the show, on the Beings floor, is by AA Bronson, a former member of the queer Canadian art trio General Idea, who has since relocated to New York. He's taken up a solo career as the only surviving member of the group. The other two succumbed to AIDS, the subject of his large-scale digital print, a *nature morte* depicting the corpse of Felix Partz, late of GI, his horrifically withered form pictured amidst a vibrant array of colorful, patterned linens, blankets and Op Art pajamas — eye-candy that Partz coordinated to stimulate his failing vision. For the rest of us, it serves as a bracing, heart-tugging image of mortality, something that obviously resonates deeply at this moment in history.

## Our town

While not by any means a morbid show, this theme nevertheless continues, at least in back story, with a lively installation by the late San Franciscan Margaret Kilgallen, *Main Drag* (2001). A rollicking city-townscape painted on the walls and plywood panels, it's a cobbled-together evocation of community in lively Necco wafer hues and gracious spirit.



Mission artist Chris Johanson's work is a funky evocation of urban life.

There's a similar feel to Mission denizen Chris Johanson's funky but winning installation, which traverses all the show's themes by playing out in the Marcel Breuer-designed museum stairwell. With the lengthy but apt title, *This is a picture about the place we live in called Earth that is inside of this place we call space*, the piece is a series of densely 3-D, cross-section dioramas of city life, a delicate balance of the shittiness and the sublime. Rendered in house- and acrylic paint on scrap wood in Johanson's child-like style, the piece is super-refreshing in its honesty, humor and elbow grease — it's a massive, well-realized project. I was a little worried that he might win the hefty \$100,000 Bucksbaum Award to a Biennial artist — what might all that money do to such a scrappy vision? Alas, the award went to Israeli-born filmmaker Irit Batsry, whose feature-length video I did-

n't have time to see.

I did see other decent if not necessarily award-worthy works. Jeremy Blake, whose morphing digital "paintings" were a crowd-pleaser in SFMOMA's *010101*, shows a new film inspired by the Winchester Mystery House, where ghostly Morris Louis-like paint splashes emanate from the rifleman's widow's bedroom window. I liked Anne Wilson's table of specimen-like dismantling of black lace, and Omer Fast's amusing video deconstruction of the moving image. On one monitor he presents images of drab suburban streets, and on a facing screen, shows all the convincing Foley sound effects he made with his mouth in a recording studio. But more often than not, the pieces in the show just didn't stick in my mind. I had to refer back to notes or the catalog to remember just what I saw.



Starburst by Chris Johanson, an SF artist represented in the Biennial.

## Horror show

After the fuzzy Biennial, the high-concept, high-controversy *Mirroring Evil: Nazi Imagery/Recent Art* at the Jewish Museum (through June 30) was a splash of cold water to the brain. Bracketed by a contextualizing videotape and wall labels (and preceded by security checks more stringent than at the airport — poseur punk-rock teens with studded collars and switchblades in their backpacks held up the line when they rattled the metal detectors), the show investigates a flammable subject with works by mostly European artists in their late 30s. It's better in theory than in practice. The topic that rises to the surface here is mediated experience of cultural horror. With a couple generations of distance, the Holocaust can only be addressed through the filter of cinema, commerce and dreams. Piotr Uklanski, for example, presents dozens of

color images of handsome (and not-so) actors portraying Nazis, while Tom Sachs tackles Third Reich iconography with Prada and Tiffany packaging, and Zbigniew Libera creates a production-line concentration camp in a self-designed Lego set. The show can't help but be provocative, but one wishes the art itself could be as powerful as its subject.

There was too much to see in the Chelsea galleries — decent shows by Fischli & Weiss at Matthew Marks, Karen Kilimnick at 303, Bruce Nauman's oddly fascinating studio surveillance video installation at Dia, among the more memorable shows. I was, as usual, entranced by the dense new Lari Pittman paintings at Barbara Gladstone (through May 4). His oh-so-queer works still bear his signature sense of pop baroque, but the focus is shifting to slightly sparer 1950s wallpaper patterns, modernist architecture and ultra-lashed female eyes peering out from the glamorous fray. There's a definite gay gaze appeal to TJ Wilcox's media-mining videoworks at Metro Pictures (through April 13). Known for constructing wacky but salient narratives out of existing footage — a Babar tale told with David Bowie clips, as in *Little Elephant*, which will be seen in a Matrix show opening June 16 at the Berkeley Art Museum — here he presented nonfiction pieces dealing with the time-warping phenomenon of *Rocky Horror Picture Show* rituals, and a game of 20 questions with two flamboyant females whose identities have been shaped by their interest in Liz Taylor and Joan Crawford as Mildred Pierce. There's nothing more gaily rejuvenating than basking in that kind of power. ▼

## Lana Turner

## ◀ previous page

flop on all counts. MGM asked her back as *Diane* (de Poitiers, the 16th-century courtesan), but it, too, failed. Twentieth, however, starred her in its tedious version of the "shocking" bestseller, *Peyton Place* (1957), a smash, earning her a Best Actress Oscar nomination.

The film's box-office was helped by the notoriety of a real-life tragedy. Her daughter killed Turner's boyfriend, petty gangster Johnny Stompanato, who had threatened to murder the star. Turner's dramatic testimony was front-page news for weeks, as was her love life. (After divorcing

Crane, she had married, among others, actor Lex Baxter and businessman Dan Topping, eventually having eight husbands in all.)

## Imitation of Lana

Universal offered *The Lady Takes a Flyer*, and Paramount sent her to England for *Another Time, Another Place* with the young Sean Connery (both 1958), but audiences stayed away. Then producer Ross Hunter convinced Universal to remake *Imitation of Life* (1959), with Turner in Claudette Colbert's old role, and the film struck box-office gold, particularly with women, who wept watching Douglas Sirk's masterful melodrama. She and Anthony Quinn were adulterous killers painting a *Portrait in Black*

(1960), which also did well, but the muddled version of James Gould Cozzens' novel *By Love Possessed* (1961) failed.

She loved Bob Hope's *Bachelor in Paradise* (1961), then asked Dean Martin, *Who's Got the Action?* (1962), both flops, as was her discovery that *Love Has Many Faces* (1965). Hunter remade *Madame X* for her (1966), but it did not repeat the success of their earlier collaborations.

For a record sum, she agreed to a television series, Harold Robbins' *The Survivors*, but it didn't draw viewers, nor did another movie, *The Big Cube* (both 1969). For television, she was one of *The Last of the Powerseakers* (1971), then on the big screen, faced *Persecution* (1974) and *Bittersweet*

*Love* (1976), although these films went unnoticed, as did 1983's *Witches' Brew*. That year, mink-clad and flawlessly coiffed, she guested on Jane Wyman's evening soap opera, *Falcon's Crest*, lifting the show back into the Top 10. She appeared as herself on *Circus of the Stars* #10 (1985), then was *Thwarted* (1991), her last movie.

She died in 1995 from cancer. It is unlikely another Lana Turner will emerge. The Hollywood that created her and the audiences that adored her are gone. She projected an image of sensual, glamorous beauty, and mastered stardom as few actresses ever did. Her career is testimony to how well she succeeded in her chosen profession. ▼



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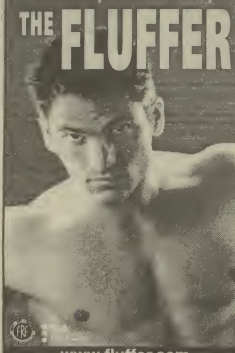
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# Adventures in fascination

by Deborah Peifer

Some characters enter your heart and stay there forever. Scout Finch (*To Kill a Mockingbird*), Tilden (*What Girls Learn*), Francie (*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*): I read their stories, watched them grow up, ached for their hurts, rejoiced when they found love or happiness or just had a good day. The narrator of *Close to Spider Man* (by Ivan E. Coyote; Arsenal Pulp, \$11.95), who never tells us her name until she changes it to Ivan, is a girl who always matters to us. Her adventures, her heartaches, her loves are the stuff of legend, and equally a celebration of the ordinary life lived to the fullest.

Coyote writes with spare elegance and more than a little

humor, as when the mother of our narrator (who is not yet Ivan) explains just how it is that Val's father appeared naked when she and Val fell off their bikes, leading to much bleeding and wailing. The first view of a naked man means much more to the girl than her injuries, and she wants an explanation. Her mother

replies, with unarguable logic, "Well, you know how the Salezes are different from us? Like how Grace lets you guys colour on the walls in Val's room, but I would kill you

both if you did that here? Well, that's why Pierre had no clothes on. They're French."

*Close to Spider Man* is an extraordinary collection of stories, each of which is as rich and detailed as a good novel, and as concise as a brilliant poem. Coyote is a writer of exceptional skill, unafraid to reveal but clear on just what must be concealed.

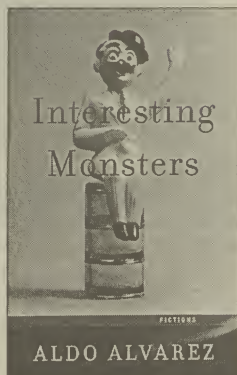


## Book Report

### Very interesting

I admire writers who take risks, and I especially appreciate those risk-takers who succeed. In this breathtaking collection of short fiction, *Interesting Monsters* (Graywolf, \$14), Aldo Alvarez tests his courage and ours with experiments in style, theme and tone, and each attempt succeeds brilliantly. The reader has the pleasure of reading a perfectly tuned story, meeting an unforgettable character, experiencing a tender emotion, and the payoff is tremendous. Alvarez is an artist with language who can capture a person in a sentence.

Consider the hapless Thelman, who is confronted, in heaven, by the appearance of his still-living son, with whom he has not spoken, alive or dead, in years. After an awkward greeting, Thelman is stuck: "Thelman did not know



how to address his son further. Thelman was a man whose social skills were, in moments of unease, limited to understanding bank statements." In "Heat Rises," Alvarez explores the power of music, and creates a new musical form so vividly that I'd swear I heard it. Watching a homophobic social climber get hers is one of the many delights in "Property Values." Several characters appear in several of the stories, and their reappearance is much like running into an old friend. *Interesting Monsters* is a phenomenal collection, and Alvarez is a writer of distinction.

### Against censorship

Thanks to the astonishing bullheadedness of publishers, Dorothy Bryant can't find a publisher for her 13th book, *Literary Lynching*, because in it, among other things, she makes clear the ways in which unofficial censorship can be just as damaging and silencing as the official governmental kind. You need only recall the attacks on Barbara Kingsolver and Susan Sontag for expressing the slightest doubt about the Bush bombing plan to realize just how powerful this kind of repression can be.

Pat Holt, whose online column "Holt Uncensored" is one of the great pleasures for anyone who cares about books and the industry that publishes (or refuses to) the books we love to read, arranged with Bryant for the book to be serialized on her website. Just go to [www.holtuncensored.com](http://www.holtuncensored.com) and click on *Literary Lynching* to read the Introduction and the first chapter. New chapters will appear every other week. Bryant and Holt invite readers to print the chapters and pass them around if they wish. Sounds like a win-win proposition to me.


### So much to do

Nominees for the 2002 Lambda Awards turn out for a reading at the Harvey Milk Memorial Branch Library, 3555 16th Street, on April 10 at 6:30 p.m. Steven Saylor and Achy Obejas introduce and moderate. Also at the Milk Branch, Lucy Jane Bledsoe (*Working Parts*) leads a discussion on "The Life of the Writer" on April 17 at 7 p.m.

The women's book group at A Different Light meets to discuss *Odd Girl Out*, with none other than pulp legend Ann Bannon on April 16 at 7 p.m. The Harvey Milk Institute hosts a book release party for Lynn Breedlove's first novel, *Godspeed* (St. Martin's Press), on April 4, 7:30 p.m. at The Center, 1800 Market St. @ Octavia. The party is part of its new Arts & Lecture Series. Upcoming events feature photographers Tee A. Corinne and Laurie Tobie Edison; historian Susan Stryker lecturing on The Compton's Cafeteria Riot; SF's Forgotten Stonewall; and authors Michelle Tea (*Valencia*) and Shar Rednour (*The Femme's Guide to the Universe*). For info on the series, visit the website ([www.harveymilk.org](http://www.harveymilk.org)) or call 865-5633. ▼

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# Religious wrong

by Gary Morris

*What Would Betty Do? How to Succeed at the Expense of Others in This World and the Next by Mrs. Betty Bowers, America's Best Christian*, as told to Paul A. Bradley; Fireside, \$12

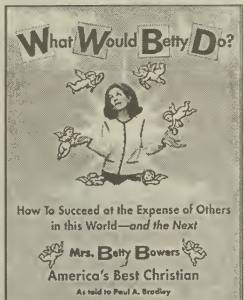
Self-help, from Richard Simmons to Martha Stewart, has become one of America's *de facto* religions, practically on par with Christianity. And like Christianity, it's such a big, brainless target that it's spawned many a satire. Who can forget *Is Martha Stewart Living?* from Her Highness's heyday a few years back?

*What Would Betty Do?* goes most such parodies one better by combining self-help with religion, making the target bigger and better. Betty isn't a new phenomenon; "she" has had a cult website ([bettybowers.com](http://bettybowers.com)) for at least a couple of years. But this combination etiquette guide and religious parody by "America's Best Christian," based on the website, is new, and it's one of those rare instances of the 'Net producing words that deserve to be preserved in print.

The book is "as told to" its real author, Paul A. Bradley. What dis-

tinguishes it is the preternaturally pushy Betty, a delirious combination of self-delusion, self-obsession, and self-righteousness. Like a Bible-crazed Joan Crawford, Betty tells readers exactly what to think and how to live, all the time making it clear that even the most devoted reader will never come up to her heavenly standard in looks, manners, and mores. Even the Lord isn't safe from her barbs: "If God created me in His image, I have more than returned the compliment!" She's equally handy with recipes ("Betty's World-Famous 'Brutal Death of Our Savior' Cookies") and tips on the proper couture for "abortion-clinic bombings" and "executions." And in her all-Betty-all-the-time world, even cherubs, those cloying little butterballs with wings, are in her thrall: the cover illustration, with Betty looking especially sanctimonious, shows them doing her hair, spraying perfume on her wrists, and generally slaving to keep her looking good.

Betty's puppetmaster Bradley is so good at sending up the rabid Christian Right that readers may want to sample the book rather than read it straight through, lest the fun end too fast. It's hard to resist such choice items as Betty's pet



project, the "Christian Crack Whore Ministry" (with its timeless mantra, "Every Knee Shall Bend") or her mean mock-interviews with Eminem and Laura Schlessinger ("You are simply too slutty to speak at my church, dear.") It doesn't hurt that a decidedly queer sensibility runs throughout the book. (If Bradley isn't gay, an induction ceremony should be planned for him pronto.) Betty's version of the gay agenda is a hilarious to-do list with such entries as: "4:10 p.m.: Time permitting, bring about the decline of Western Civilization." Like Martha, she's also seasonally-minded. Many readers will want to know that "there are only 297 shopping days till the Apocalypse." If only the hellfire crowd (and the Martha wannabes) would read this book. Now that would be self-improvement. ▼



## MUSIC

# A voice worth living for

by Jason Serinus

*Bel Sogno: Italian Scenes and Arias* Cristina Gallardo-Domàs (Teldec)

Every once in a while, a singer comes along whose beauty of voice and dramatic conviction make you sit up and take notice. Such is the case with the Chilean-born soprano Cristina Gallardo-Domàs. In a generous debut recital that features bel canto arias by Donizetti and Bellini, verismo classics by Cilea and Catalani, four Verdi staples, and six Puccini favorites, the engaging Gallardo-Domàs demonstrates that she has the intelligence and the pipes to make opera come alive.

Interest is piqued from the opening phrases of Cilea's great prima donna aria, "Io son l'umile ancella." A grand little ditty in which Adriana Lecouvreur selflessly proclaims herself a humble little angel who just happens to channel divine inspiration, the aria demands a stunning presentation. Gallardo-Domàs sings with such consummate beauty, such idiomatic emphasis on the right words and phrases, that one is convinced that maybe she is a channel after all.

In very different repertoire, "Al dolce guidami" from Donizetti's *Anna Bolena* and "Senza mamma" from Puccini's *Suor Angelica*, the soprano gives performances that can hold their own when compared to versions by Montserrat

Caballé. No, Gallardo-Domàs doesn't have the ability to effortlessly float pianissimi as breathtakingly as did (and reportedly still does) Caballé, but her phrasing is so beautiful, the tone so wholesome and warm, that both arias succeed admirably.

Occasionally the soprano takes great risks. Hailed for her Violetta in Verdi's *La Traviata*, Gallardo-Domàs launches into the "Sempre libera" with such vigor that she abandons beautiful tone on the lower notes of runs in order to emphasize Violetta's recklessness. Even without a high E-flat, she builds the climax of the aria so convincingly that hers is one of the few performances I have heard in which the omission of that penultimate high note does not result in a lessening of impact.

Not everything is equally memorable. A comparison of Gallardo-Domàs' "Sì, mi chiamo Mimì" from Puccini's *La Bohème* with classic interpretations by Renata Tebaldi and "La Divina" Claudio Muzio reveals her predecessors as more imaginative, more capable of launching into the glorious soaring climax



"ma quando vien lo seggio/but when the thaw comes" with vigor and passion. But neither Tebaldi (nor Callas, for that matter) can summon tone so lovely, so perfect for such Puccini gems as "O mio babbino caro" and "In quelle trine morbide."

Although Gallardo-Domàs made her professional debut 12 years ago, reached La Scala as early as 1994, and has sung Mimì at the Met, and Violetta, Mimì, Antonia and Liù at the Vienna State Opera, this is only her fourth appearance on disc. Given that the Warner corporation seems set on killing off its Teldec and Erato labels, it may take some time before we hear from her again.

Grab this CD while you can! This woman's artistry will make you happy to be alive. ▼

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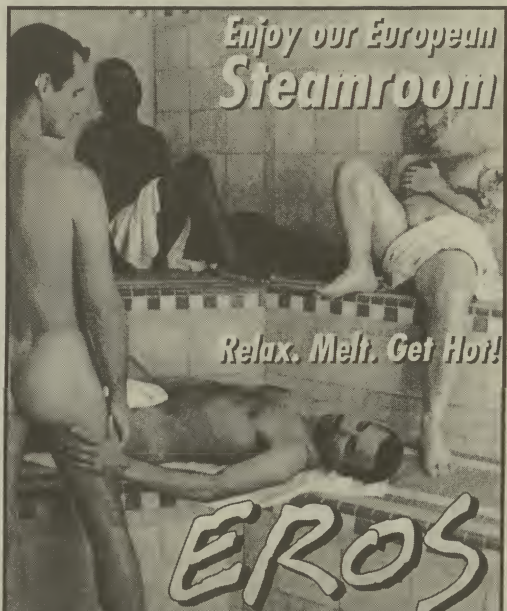
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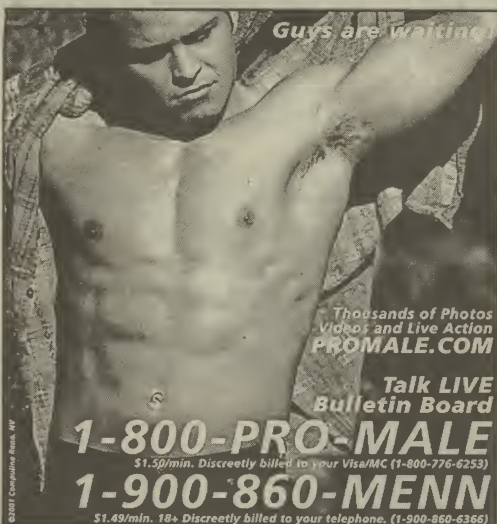
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Maribel Verdu, Diego Luna and Gael Garcia Bernal hit the road to the fictional Heaven's Mouth beach.

## Road trip with hormones

### 'Y Tu Mamá También' scores big-time

by David Lamble

**R**ight off the bat, the new Mexican teen sex comedy, *Y Tu Mamá También* (And Your Mama, Too, or more bluntly, *Tough Shit*, and *Let's See You Try To Do Something About It*) smashes all the conventions of the genre. Two obviously middle-class adolescents are joyfully fucking. Julio (the barely-out-of-his-teens hunk from last year's smash hit *Amores Perros* Gael Garcia Bernal, buns to the camera) is giving his girlfriend a very gabby farewell screwing, pleading that her vacation to Italy not include any smoochy face-time with Eurotrash, or "gringo backpackers... or a dirty Mexican selling necklaces on the street."

Immediately we realize that *Y Tu's* sibling screenwriters, Alfonso and Carlos Cuarón, are not only ignoring such American staples as pie and superglue, but are fearlessly giving us a world of teens whose horny exploits are brash but not totally mindless.

A decade ago, *Y Tu's* director, Alfonso Cuarón, found himself in hot water with the oligarchy ruling Mexico when he submitted his first feature to the PRI's movie police. The Spanish title, *Solo con tu Pareja*, could be translated *Love in the Time of Hysteria* or *Only with Your Partner*—the latter was the PRI government's official slogan for promoting safe sex. The film mocked official attitudes by comically rendering the plight of a Lothario who thinks he may have contracted AIDS. PRI officials sent Cuarón's naughty film to its room, but its delayed release made it the top-grossing Mexican film in 1992, a feat matched last year by *Y Tu*.

Free to follow their cocks' de-

sires, Julio and Tenoch (Diego Luna from *Before Night Falls*), an unusual buddy pairing of a latchkey kid and his bratty upper-class pal, soon tire of almost nightly debauches fueled by Ecstasy imported from San Francisco. At a wedding party presided over by the last PRI President and his legion of corrupt cronies (a gathering that, with its roster of gun-toting bodyguards, would be right at home in the *Godfather* sagas), the boys happen upon Luisa (Maribel Verdu from *Belle Époque*), the slightly older wife of Tenoch's Don Juan-behaving cousin, who, nurturing a private sorrow, unexpectedly accepts their invitation to vacation at the fabled (if only in their imaginations) Heaven's Mouth beach.

As good as things have been up this point, *Y Tu Mamá También* really takes flight when the boys and Luisa stuff themselves into Julio's activist sister's creaky old stationwagon and head south beyond the Mexico City freeway grid to a land of cheap motels with dirty pools, free-flowing beer and a peasant population living more or less as they have for hundreds of years under the baleful gaze of the Federales who still "don't need no stinkin' badges."

#### Truckstop tunes

One of the signs that you're in good hands with the brothers Cuarón is the complete absence of a wall-to-wall pop music soundtrack, the *sine qua non* of this Dawson's Creek/American Pie era of faux teen movies. The strains of "You don't know what it's like to love somebody," so prominent in the TV ads, are barely audible in the film, whose musical inspiration is said to be Frank Zappa, and where the only tunes heard

onscreen come from the car radio or a truckstop jukebox.

Real teens tend to be would-be humans bolstered by their ideals while betrayed by their hormones, and Julio and Tenoch are nothing if not hilariously and painfully real. The boys spend the first hours of the ride telling the guileless Luisa about their private male manifesto, "Thou Shall Not Fuck a Brother's Girlfriend." Needless to say, both boys are guilty of this and other sins against macho comradeship. Ironically, it is Luisa's seduction of both boys that causes Julio and Tenoch to doubt the innocence of their friendship.

The most uniquely pleasurable thing to report about *Y Tu Mamá También* is, surprisingly, not the truly shocking intimacy of its many sex scenes, but the blithe way the actors and filmmakers dispense with political correctness and alter the art of storytelling. Every few minutes, the film's soundtrack cuts out, replaced by a matter-of-fact narrator who fills in the blanks (what the characters are really thinking, or what they have or will do that departs from their images of themselves) as if he were God's private secretary.

*Y Tu Mamá También* is a comedy that dares to end on a note of humbling and haunting truth-telling. Luisa's private sorrow has a boomerang-like quality that pushes the boys apart before yoking them together in a moment of unforgettable but wrenching passion. The film's climax is the literal representation of everything that American teen movies are created to refute. ▼

**Y Tu Mamá También opens Friday, April 5.**

## Theatre Rhino

◀ page 27

caused a ruckus, and seems to revel in the memory, looking at the photographs: "This was *Shopping & Fucking*, which was one of my favorite productions ever. It caused all sorts of problems. We got hate mail. A major funder withdrew funding because the show was offensive to straight people. They said [the play presented] a very dark view of humanity." Holsclaw sighs deeply, then replies: "Now, you step over people to come to this theatre.

Then you come inside and we're supposed to be at a beachhouse on Fire Island? You know what I mean? Shouldn't theatre reflect the experience of the world?"

This dream called Theatre Rhinoceros has been Holsclaw's life, career and home for almost 20 years, almost since the time he moved to San Francisco from New York, in 1983. He never intended to become artistic director of a gay theater company. "I never aspired to this, but now I'm the organizational history and memory of Theater Rhinoceros, because so many of my colleagues and dear friends before me are no

longer here."

#### Home runs

It's an awesome responsibility. If you want to do queer theatre in San Francisco, you have a few choices: go the low-budget, anarchist/independent route, either in rental spaces or through workshopping at the Jon Sims Center and elsewhere; or plead with mainstream theatres to produce your gay-themed piece; or turn to New Conservatory Theatre Center or Theatre Rhinoceros, the two main homes for plays and spectacles by, for and about queers.

next page ▶



## FILM

# Getting into 'Trouble Every Day'

French director Claire Denis' horror film opens

by David Lamble

In *Trouble Every Day*, the new film by French director Claire Denis, an American couple named Shane and June Brown arrive in Paris for their honeymoon. In movies, as opposed to life, characters need to earn every scrap of pleasure, and films that open on a lovey-dovey note are usually horror films.

Shane (American actor Vincent Gallo) and June (Tricia Vessey, from *Ghost Dog*) are clearly having problems in bed. He rushes to the bathroom to spank the old monkey, and leaves her alone in their suite while he dashes madly around town in search of a mysterious doctor. In parallel action, we observe the doctor, Leo (Alex Descas, a veteran of three previous films by Denis, including the 1993 serial-killer opus *I Can't Sleep*), following his nightstalker of a wife, Core (Beatrice Dalle from *Betty Blue* and *I Can't Sleep*), as she has dangerous sex with a truck-driver. Core is afflicted with a brain malady that sends her sexual appetite into overdrive, causing her to literally eat the faces of her partners. Yes, dear reader, this is the consumer-advisory part of the review, describing sexual content way beyond the infliction of hickies. They were "scandalized and shocked" at Cannes, and you know the French aren't easily shocked.

Leo keeps Core locked away in the upper floor of a suburban mansion (the basement is reserved for his experiments on the libido, complete with a refrigerator full of brightly-colored fluids) while he spends his days pleading with lab colleagues for money to complete the work.

## Wax works

The scariest movie I ever saw was the original *House of Wax* (1953) in 3D. It helped that I was nine, and the master Vincent Price was in charge of serving up the thrills. By the time the damsel rips the mask off Price's demented

sculptor character, I was practically under my seat. Price knew how to keep picking at the scab, getting you ready to watch the very thing you couldn't stand to watch, and loving every moment of it.

Denis carefully rations out the "nasty" sex that you can't stand to not watch. She's also in command of her "MacGuffin," the Alfred Hitchcock-invented term for the plot device that the good guys and bad guys obsess over that turns out to be unimportant in the end. In *The Thirty-nine Steps*, it was the formula to build an aircraft engine that the spies secrete in Mr. Memory's brain; in *Psycho*, it's the money Janet Leigh steals. Hitch boasted to Francois Truffaut that the best MacGuffin was "nothing at all."

Key to Denis' plan is antihero Vincent Gallo, in their fourth film together (*Nenette et Boni*, *US Go Home* and *Keep It For Yourself*). At first I feared that the shaggy-haired Gallo's countenance was too lupine and that his dark secret was hidden too obviously in plain sight. But he works, and quite nicely, for in the end the real horror of *Trouble Every Day* is Shane's fear that his passion for Jane may come spilling out all too fiercely.

Gallo, who got his start in a series of one-man shows in the '80s, has proven a craggy indie staple playing his out-of-control energy either for comic effect (as part of a trio of bungling donut-shop bandits in Alan Taylor's much-underrated *Palookaville*) or taking it to the end of the line in his own directorial debut, *Buffalo 66*, where a released convict's need to pee and impress his scary parents at the same time produces a slice of Rust Belt America that is practically radioactive in its portrait of everyday despair. In *Trouble Every Day*, Gallo so tones down his Id that he's almost likable, and by film's end, we pray that sex may no longer prove his soul's most important comfort food. ▼

*Trouble Every Day* opens Friday at the Lumiere Theatre.



Shane (Vincent Gallo) dashes madly around Paris in *Trouble Every Day*.

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## Theatre Rhino

◀ previous page

"We recently started using Equity actors. Rhino is the first gay theatre in the country to have a seasonal agreement with Equity. We pay our actors \$125 a week."

The amount is absurdly low, a mere token, and Holsclaw knows it. "Economics in the Bay Area have made it hard for young artists to live here because rents are so high. Young people are going to Portland and Seattle, not San Francisco. I don't sense a rising class of younger artists in the volume there was when I started, because it's a tough city to live in."

Holsclaw describes finances at Theatre Rhinoceros as touch-and-go, but declares that thanks to his small, hard-working staff, and careful allocation of new grants, "At Rhino, you see the money on the stage."

Then he drops the big news: "We've been in the planning process for our relocation; we're in the process of negotiating an option to buy on a new building."

The building Holsclaw has in mind for Theatre Rhinoceros is the old City Athletic Club smack

dab in the center of the Castro. "If the homeless shelter moves out, it might become available," Holsclaw says. "The location is beautiful. The idea of having a performing arts facility in the Castro would be a great thing for the community."

Holsclaw feels the Castro location, for which they've already done an architectural feasibility study, would make GLBT theatre accessible to a larger segment of the population. "What I hear from our audience is that while some people love the Mission District, some people don't feel safe coming here. And people *should* feel safe coming to the theatre. Once inside the theatre, there should be an element of danger, because you don't know what you're going to see on stage."

As for himself, says Holsclaw, "I'm not sure what the future holds, but in the next couple of years I would like to transition out of being top-dog, and that will mean grooming and coaching somebody."

Is anybody waiting in the wings?

"Well, that's a top secret," he winks, "just like my Boo Boo Bear." ▼

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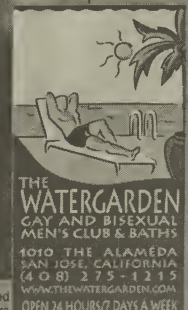
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# Will the real Hal Sparks please stand up?

by David R. Guarino

The handsome, mischievous comedic actor Hal Sparks is about as energetic a person as I have ever met. My interview with the 31-year-old star of Showtime's *Queer as Folk* gave me a bird's-eye view of what lies beneath his sparkling brown eyes and killer smile. As Michael Charles Novotny, Sparks has breathed empathy into the fictional young gay man from Pittsburgh who is desperately seeking love.

But who is the real Hal Sparks? In many respects, he appears about as different from shy, sheltered Michael as you can get. This is a man who displays few hang-ups, is funny and spontaneous, and loves to make people laugh. He proclaims his heterosexuality with no condescension for the gay community.

Hal Magee Sparks III was born in Cincinnati, OH, but was raised in the small town of Peak's Mill,

KY. He moved to Chicago at 14 and became a member of the Second City Teenage Troupe. Voted "Funniest Teenager in Chicago," Hal also took his Black Belt in the martial arts at age 16.

Sparks' natural versatility and drive can be seen in his landing the host slot on El Network's *Talk Soup*, replacing John Henson through May 2000. Part Cherokee, Hal has a reputation for being a huge fan of the band Kiss, purportedly dressing up as Paul Stanley at 11 and lip-synching the entire *Kiss Alive 2* album. It sounds like something Sparks would do, for sure.

Our interview took place on the darkened set of Woody's bar on the QAF set in Toronto. Sparks was in-between takes of a diner scene involving Brian, Emmett, Ted, Michael and Melanie.

David R. Guarino: As a straight man playing the role of Michael Novotny, a sensitive young gay man from Pittsburgh, what do you feel you personally have

learned about the plight of gays and lesbians in America?

Hal Sparks: Truthfully, there weren't many surprises for me coming into this show, because I have so many gay friends. I was surprised to find out that gay men have sex facing each other, I never knew that until I saw the pilot, but I'm not alone in that.

Part of it is knowing that, underneath, everybody's the same insofar as desires. We all want to be loved, we all experience pain, we all hold it in different ways, but we all have the same kind of wants overall, gay or straight, it shouldn't matter. So I came into doing Michael feeling that the last thing that was important about him was that he was gay. The most important thing is that he's trying to find love.

One of the best scenes you've done was a scene from last season where you are with Brian, who just had this encounter with his father. You're consoling him, and we see Brian crying. The truth of that scene was so vivid.

And Brian comes into Michael's bed, and Michael undresses him, puts him in bed, cuddles up next to him and takes care of him. That was a great scene because of Michael's sort-of caretaking nature. Actually, you get to see how capable he is. You go, "Well, yeah, Michael actually has some strengths." And one of them is taking care of people.

Is there going to be a third season of *Queer As Folk*?



Hal Sparks on break on QAF set.

Well, we all hope so, but we don't know. They kind of keep it a secret until the last minute so it has the most pressworthiness. But you know, like any classic series, we have at least three seasons in us. Past that, I don't know. Personally, I think they should do *Queer as Folk Miami*, or *Queer as Folk Seattle*, and follow a different group of people. And put more accent on the lesbians next time, or you can have it be on older gay men or much younger gay high school kids, who have to deal with

different issues. Because there's so much more to gay life than what we show.

Talk to me about the negative reactions on QAF you've heard from the gay and lesbian community.

A lot of gay people don't like the show because they think it paints them in one way or another. That's something you run into because it's the first of its kind! Anybody who sees the show and watches it for more than two episodes gets over the sex part very quickly. They are amazed at how they don't care anymore. And that's a huge step, because that's the biggest discomfort for straight people, dealing with gay people, is that they don't understand the sexual aspect. They're confused by it, they find it repulsive or whatever. And then they watch and they go, "Oh, it's not that different from what we do," and they get into the story. It changes them forever. You can't go back, and that's the benefit. What QAF can do is supply the straight community with a reasonable look at the most extreme version of gay life so that the rest of gay people who aren't this extreme, don't go clubbing this much or live this kind of way, seem pale in comparison and thus OK.

Midway through the second season, Michael goes into gay porn or something, on the whim of the execs. I really took on Michael 'cause he's the heart of the show, the emotional center. And he is really the eye through which the straight community can see the gay community. ▼

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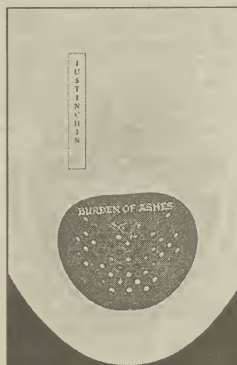
by Robert Julian

*Burden of Ashes* by Justin Chin;  
Alyson, \$13.95

Justin Chin's *Burden of Ashes* is both an autobiographical memoir and a collection of essays. Much of the material was previously published in various periodicals and subsequently modified for inclusion in this current collection. For any writer, this modus operandi presents many challenges.

The first two-thirds of Chin's *Burden* works wonderfully. Most of these chapters deal with his childhood and teen years, spent primarily in Singapore. He brings a quintessentially queer skepticism and occasionally acid wit to his reminiscences of people and place. Among the most effective and perceptive chapters is the one entitled "The Beginning of My Worthlessness." Here Chin details adolescent years spent in the custody of his abusive Aunt Jessie, whose horrific punishments were meted out under the guise of loving discipline that builds strong character. Chin exposes this ridiculous lie to great effect, while revealing its personal consequences with an admirably detached yet poetic prose voice.

The final third of *Burden of Ashes* is subtitled "The Sea of Decaying Kisses." Most of these seven essays/chapters simply don't work, either on their own or as



contributing members of the ensemble. The subject of this section of the book is Chin's sexual relationships with other men. Chapters entitled "Operculatousas" and "26 Acts" seem both forced and pretentious. Chin's writing in this final third of the book betrays a singular problem: just because a writer can recall something with clarity and specificity, this does not make it inherently interesting. The material in this section is underdeveloped or overwritten, but Chin is not the first author to arrive at a denouement and find himself without a third act.

Despite its flaws, *Burden of Ashes* is a commendable effort. At his best, Chin is a wonderful writer who speaks with refreshing candor about his own experience as a gay Chinese-American man. ▼



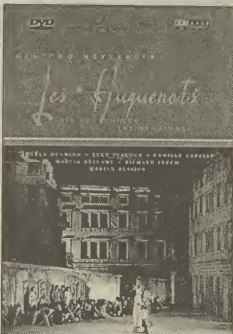
## DISCS

# Two operas and an impromptu

## 'Huguenots,' 'Zauberflöte' out on DVD remasterings

by Philip Campbell

Three recent DVD releases of film and video from the early '90s prove the superiority of the digital format. Two operas, and a comedy that plays like one, look and sound better than ever in their new remasterings.



Giacomo Meyerbeer  
*Les Huguenots* —  
Soloists, Chorus and Orchestra of  
the Deutsche Oper Berlin  
Stefan Soltesz, conductor  
(ArtHaus Musik)

Once considered the Andrew Lloyd Webber of his day, Meyerbeer put the grand into opera. *Les Huguenots* was a smash, but it has been gathering dust ever since.

There was a brief return to favor due to soprano Joan Sutherland, but there is no disguising the lack of inspired music or the episodic nature of the drama.

Just as an inventive director has often saved Sir Andrew, this Deutsche Oper production comes to vivid life, thanks to the staging of John Dew. The music remains obstinately square, but it is more serviceable when the story has been told so compellingly.

Religious conflict remains a timely subject, and Dew's decision to update to the 20th century is plausible. The use of a German translation and modern dress makes the battle between Catholics and Protestants disturbingly relevant.

The director edited the epic length using the performance version by Ignatz Franz Castelli. The brilliant settings and costumes (very Third Reich chic) are by Gottfried Pilz.

The plot is complicated, but easy to grasp. Strong characterizations by the principals lend depth to sketchy parts. Most successful is tenor Richard Leech as Raoul. His blond looks come from California, but his ringing voice and excellent German are believably Teutonic. After early problems, he warms to a triumphant finish.

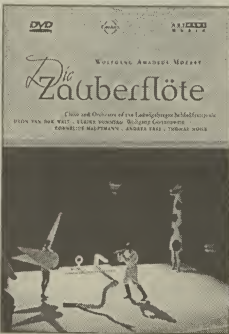
Martin Blasius, as his brother Marcel, never overcomes his thinness of tone or perilous pitch, though he does get to sing the only memorable tune in the opera, Luther's hymn "Ein feste Burg."

The women are all good singing actors, and that accounts for a lot in live opera. The role dear to La Sutherland goes to Angela Denning, and if her coloratura seems forced by comparison, she hits all the notes and looks sensational.

Lucy Peacock sings Raoul's star-crossed lover Valentine with dignity and conviction. Camille Capasso almost steals the show in

the pants role of the page Urbain. Until she sang, I thought she was a boy.

The chorus and orchestra are admirable. The DVD is letterboxed, showing the full stage picture, and the sound is rich and balanced.



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
*Die Zauberflöte* —  
Soloists, Choir and Orchestra of  
the Ludwigsburger  
Schlossfestspiele  
Wolfgang Gonnenwein, conductor  
(ArtHaus Musik)

The ArtHaus label is responsible for some of the best releases in opera DVDs today. Transfers are flawless, and the use of optional subtitles a boon. They not only provide rare repertoire, but also beloved standards.

Everybody's second favorite Mozart opera (you pick No. 1) is presented from the exquisite jewel-box of a theatre within the Ludwigsburg Castle. It is a joyous treat from the festival in 1992.

The cast, with the exceptions of Thomas Mohr as Papageno, Cornelius Hauptmann as Sarastro, and Patricia Rozario as Papagena, is relatively unknown to American listeners. Still, there is no weakest link. Andrea Frey's Queen of the Night suffers from curdled tone at times, but the sense of ensemble is strong enough to mask minor flaws. The show breezes by like a midsummer night's dream.

The clever sets and costumes recall the cut-outs of Matisse. They are as eye-popping, in their minimalist way, as the much grander Hockney decorations for the Met.

The chorus and orchestra are remarkably well-drilled for a pick-up production, and the direction by Axel Manthey is unfussy and clear. The Three Ladies look and sound great, and the Three Boys are as cute as choirboys with slingshots. The Tamino and Pamina of Deon van der Walt and Ulrike Sonntag sing with vocal purity and act convincingly. Sonntag is especially appealing.

I could live without the black-face roles and the vague misogynist tone, but that is in the text. I could not live without all that glorious music, and it sounds marvelous. The production even compares favorably with Ingmar Bergman's charming version.

### Impromptu

Written by Susan Kernochan  
Directed by James Lapine  
(MGM Home Entertainment)

Not many stage directors make easy transitions to the screen. Pulitzer Prize-winner James Lapine made a promising debut in 1991 with the comedy *Impromptu*. It didn't launch a Hollywood

career, but it yielded a delightful historical speculation.

The romantic pursuit of Frédéric Chopin by writer George Sand is portrayed as something of a comic operetta without all the singing. There is enough music in the background — arranger John Strauss makes loving use of the composer's gorgeous melodies throughout.

A perfect impromptu should seem "spontaneous and free," says Hugh Grant as Chopin. "No one should be able to guess at the desperate calculation behind it," Judy Davis' Sand is calculating all right, a bundle of neurotic, erotic impulses. It isn't until late in the story that she bags him. It seems all she had to do was stop trying.

Grant and Davis make one of the most improbable couplings

since, well, Chopin and Sand, but the love scene — when there finally is one — is so tender and well-acted that the entire conceit of the story becomes touchingly real.

Before that takes place, Lapine parades the great artists of the day before the camera in often-hilarious portrayals by Julian Sands as Franz Liszt, Bernadette Peters as his bitter mistress Marie, Ralph Brown as Eugene Delacroix and Mandy Patinkin as the poet Alfred De Musset. Emma Thompson gets a cameo as a culture vulture Duchess, and Georges Corraface plays a smoldering rejected lover (his dueling scene with Grant is a comic highlight).

There are a few anachronisms in the script (I doubt anyone used the expression "overkill" then),



but the sets and costumes are beautifully accurate, and the letter-boxing and digital remastering of the soundtrack add a sumptuous dimension to the period detail.

The ending is vague and abrupt. Maybe a perfect impromptu is supposed to be ambiguous, but if the conclusion isn't fully satisfying, the rest of the film is witty and bright. ▼

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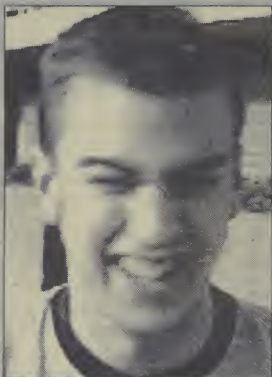
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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendare

by Mark Mardon



Jazzy composer/vocalist Spencer Day

## Day dawns

From the southland emerges a new talent: jazzy young vocalist, pianist, and composer Spencer Day, a powerhouse performer now appearing at a local gay bar near you. My agent-wannabe instincts tell me this boy is going to make it Big Time.

For the moment, he's down to earth and accessible, playing two different gigs at two different intoxicating venues. You can catch Day every Tuesday night at the Lush Lounge on Polk Street (at Post), where he plays a standard cabaret set with far above-standard flair, plus his original jazz compositions, Broadway numbers, and whatever suits his muse. Day occupies the big alcove above the bar, commanding the piano, reeling off songs with complete panache. As he looks out at his audience, he smiles and banters and never lets go. He has that Sinatra magnetism, plus that Cole Porter gift for making up great songs. At only 23, his musical sap flows smoothly and abundantly.

To fully appreciate Day's gifts, you have to experience his Pink Floyd side. He's not just a cabaret queen. From his deep romantic, searching soul arise original songs about himself and life, linked thematically in performance, delivered as high-concept performance pieces.

The results can be appreciated on the last Wednesday night of each month at "The Crimson Club," when Day and a troupe of young talents take over the Stud Bar (9th & Harrison), a place better known for drag shows and DJ dancing than for live music. They set up tables and chairs in front of the tiny stage fronting the DJ booth and proceed to render musically big, bold conceptual pieces elegantly pieced together and performed by Day.

The emcee of the night is Day's best friend, the slim, tall handsome Brian Knecht, who charmingly orchestrates the show and fills in with spoken word and vocalizing. Also joining Day are Erika Torchia on violin, guitar and vocals, Keely Rogers-Free on guitar and vocals, singer/songwriter Amelia Ray, and bassist Erik Sandall.

This is the first event of its kind at the Stud, and the place was packed on its first night. The troupe ran through a song cycle about life in LA and on the road. Day sang and played electronic keyboard piano sounds mixed with atmospheric. His nervousness came off as endearing. The audience adored him. Day captured the night. ▼



Varla Jean Merman does her worst at New Conservatory Theatre Center. See Saturday.

## Eri

### Maitri Art Sale @ One Embarcadero Center

Opening reception: The Maitri Art Sale begins a 10-day Spring run, April 5-14, featuring a vast array of affordable works of art by more than 150 local Bay Area artists and art students. Artists will be on hand to talk with patrons about their works in photography, painting, sculpture and other media. This year, Boston Properties has donated its retail space, the ten-day home for Maitri's benefit sale. Maitri is a Sanskrit word meaning compassion; the organization was founded here in 1987 as a residence for people living with AIDS. The Maitri Art Sale is Maitri's largest fundraising event. Art students from SF Art Institute, California College of Arts and Crafts, Academy of Art College, UC Berkeley and Stanford University will participate. Artists set the price of their own works and receive 50% of the proceeds. Free admission. Daily from 10am-7pm through April 14th. Info: [www.maitrisf.org](http://www.maitrisf.org)

### ODC Theater

"Migrations," the second in a new performance series featuring dance premieres by four emerging Bay Area choreographers: Catherine-Marie Davalos, Laura Derosier, Mart Lawrence, and Heidi Schweiker. \$10 adv.; \$12 door. 8pm. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Tix/info: 863-9834; [www.odctheater.org](http://www.odctheater.org); [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com)

### Theatre Rhinoceros

Now playing on the main stage: Tom Eyan's "Women Behind Bars," a send-up of women's prison movies of the '50s, directed by Russell Blackwood. Thru April 13. Tix/info: 861-5079; [www.therhino.org](http://www.therhino.org)

### Studio @ Rhino

Opening night: Creatus and Theatre Rhinoceros present "Waiting for Godot," a new interpretation of the classic dark comedy by Samuel Beckett. Directed by Kimberly Richards (now starring in "Late Night Catechism"). Starring Kim Larsen, Neal Shorstein, Michael Patrick Gaffney (Equity), Jonathan Gonzalez (Equity), and Israel

Toro. Two iconic couples search for meaning and validation with humor and pathos. Physical comedy abounds as relationships are explored and our heroes wait for their final salvation. \$18 Fri. & Sat.; \$15 Thu. & Sun. 8:30pm. The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. Tix/info: 861-5079; [www.sfcreatus.com](http://www.sfcreatus.com)

### Jon Sims Center for the Arts

AlRSpace artist in residence Shar Rednair ("The Femme's Guide to the Universe") takes time from fueling the dyke sex revolution to return to her roots in a one-woman show "Night Coming," based on the wicked and witty women of her family. In this workshop production, Starline (a barely fictionalized Little Shar) pulls the strings out of celery, lights cigarettes and keeps sleeping-pill-popping Aunt Ruby's Pepsi filled so that she doesn't nod off and end her stream of tales. We realize the power storytelling has to keep a young girl dreaming and scheming of a life offering more than good-paying factory work. \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFOF). 8pm. 1519 Mission St. Tix: 554-0402; [www.jonsimsctr.org](http://www.jonsimsctr.org)

### Balazo Gallery/ Mission Badlands Gallery

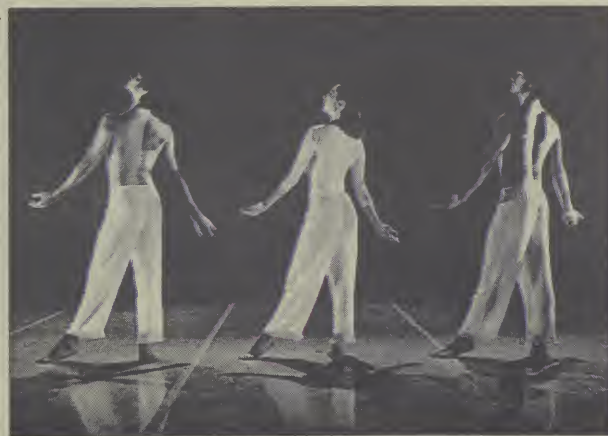
Pocha Nostra Performance with Stormy Leather (SF) and Calaca Press (San Diego) present "Apocalypse Mañana," an Ethno-Tech Living Museum of Intercultural Fetishes and super-locote Costume Ball. Do you want to be a

transvestite zapatista super-model or just look like one? Then join in two evenings of radical performance art, live rocktronic opera, video-arte, and revelry, plus trans-racial makeovers, cross-racial weddings, political "peep shows," & exotic cocktails. Dress code: "Operation Enduring Otherness." Come dressed as your favorite ethnic profile or evil other. Best costumes will get to be part of a fashion show judged by Camille of Stormy Leather. \$10 with costume; \$15 street clothes; naked marlachs enter free. 8pm-midnight. Also on April 6. 2811 Mission St. (at 24th St.). Info: [www.pochanostra.com](http://www.pochanostra.com); [www.stormyleather.com](http://www.stormyleather.com)

## Sat

### Jon Sims Center for the Arts

San Francisco In Exile (SFInX) presents "Mouth: the teeth, the lips, the tip of the tongue." SF's slammigst queer spoken word event will say it and spray it tonight as it features the poetry and prose of performers Charles Anders, Dwayne Calizo, Rolando Conde, Gina Gold, Daphne Gottlieb, Lauren Wheeler and more. SFInX re-asserts our city's queer arts culture with defiant live performance by gender queers, young people, people of color, working-class and poor — i.e. the queers most at risk for exile. \$5-\$10 sliding (NO-



ODC's "Migrations: Rock, Paper, Song" explores new works. See Friday.

Queens, leather daddies and slave boys collide in *Waiting for Godot* at Theatre Rhinoceros. See Friday.

TAFOF). 8pm. 1519 Mission St. Tix/info: 554-0402; [www.jonsimsctr.org](http://www.jonsimsctr.org)

### New Conservatory Theatre Center

NCTC and Peak Performance Productions present "The Very Worst of Varla Jean Merman," played by Jefferey Roberson, directed by Michael Schiralli. Varla Jean is singer, dancer, actress, comedienne, clarinet player and educator. She sings "Talk to the Genitals," "Love on the Rocks," "Disco Inferno" and other sensations as she presents some of the "worst" lessons she's learned in life. The show debuted in New York at Caroline's comedy club. \$30 Fri. & Sat.; \$25 Wed. & Thu. 8pm. 25 Van Ness Ave. Tix: 861-8972.

### Berkeley Public Library

Celebrate the opening of the newly renovated and expanded Central Library in downtown Berkeley. Featuring Pulitzer-prize winning author Alice Walker, jazz/blues vocalist Brenda Boykin, the Red Heart Thunder Drumming Group, the Farallon Brass Quintet, Mayor Shirley Dean and other dignitaries, The Mills College Didjeridu Ensemble, lion dancers, and the Longfellow Steel Pan Band. Free. 11:30am-5pm. Info: (510) 981-6100.

### Oakland Metro Theatre

Opening night: Venture Theatre Company presents playwright Lee Blessing's 1988 play "Two Rooms," breaching the subject of terrorism through the story of Michael Wells, an American professor at a university in Beirut who is captured by a militant faction and held in a tiny cell for

three years. Back in the US, his wife shares his ordeal, struggling with the State Department and wrangling with the media, ultimately triggering a tragic series of events. Directed by Andrea Gordon. Sets and lighting by Michael Brown ("Go Girl! The Pinball Machine"). \$20 Fri. & Sat.; \$15 Thu. & Sun. 8pm. 201 Broadway, Oakland. Tix: (925) 798-1300.

### Ramada Plaza Hotel

The Imperial Court presents "Investiture 2002: Invest in the Stars," featuring the Investiture of the Rock Star Emperor Berlin and the Rock Star Empress Barbie. Many splendid performers from SF and beyond. \$10 adv.; \$15 door. Doors open 6pm; show at 7pm. 1231 Market St. (btwn 8th & 9th sts.). Tix at Marlena's or Lee\*Ona's.

### Marlena's

"Fauxgirls!" presents a special post-Imperial Investiture show, co-hosted by Angelica Devarox and "En Drag" creator Victoria Secret. Featuring the blinding talents of Reality, Donna Rae, Bliss, Mini Minerva, David and guests. No cover. 10pm. 488 Hayes St. (at Octavia). Info: 864-6672.

### Club 715 Harrison

Leather Dyke Family Charity Events presents the "San Francisco Dyke Daddy-Dyke Diva Contest," one of the hottest leather events of the year. Want to be a contestant? Check out the website for more info. Proceeds benefit The Breast Cancer Emergency Fund, through the AIDS Emergency Fund (80%) and The Titleholders' Travel Fund (20%). \$10 adv., \$15 door. 4:30-7:30pm (party afterward at The Eagle). 18+ w/d. Tix at Stormy Leather (1158 Howard St.), Good Vibrations (1210 Valencia St.), Daddy's Bar (440 Castro St.), and Mr. S/Madam S (310 & 321 7th St.). Info: [www.DykeDaddyDiva-sf.org](http://www.DykeDaddyDiva-sf.org)

## Sun

### Roxie Cinema

"Roxie Rent Party!!" The venerable Roxie Cinema art-house is being evicted from its 16th Street home because the theater is four months behind in its rent. If this matter isn't reconciled by April 16 there will be no more Roxie. The Roxie is San Francisco's oldest operating movie theater, opening its doors for the first time in 1912. The current team that owns and operates the theater was born in 1976.



It is the Roxie's fervent hope to reverse its current financial problems by eventually converting itself to a non-profit venue, much in the manner of Berkeley's Pacific Film Archive or the Film Forum in New York. Tonight's Gala Benefit features two screenings of Peter Bogdanovich's classic 1971 film, *The Last Picture Show*, plus a dazzling, star-studded gala benefit party. The first screening is at 2pm. Tickets are \$7 (more if possible). At 6pm the doors re-open for the gala benefit party. The ever-popular Brass Monkey Brass Band will be on hand as well as a gaggle of luminaries, movie stars, famous movie directors, singers, dancers, jugglers, comedians, comedienne and who knows who else. The party will get going full tilt at 7pm followed by a screening of *Last Picture Show*. \$20 (more if possible). Located on 16th St. at Valencia. Info: 431-3611.

#### Plush Room

"A Month of Sundays," the cabaret series, continues with four April performances by jazz vocalist Pilar, who settled in the Bay Area in her teens and began her career as a professional singer/flautist at the Renaissance Faire and local jazz clubs. Her jazz/pop/R&B/Latin stylings have been heard at many concerts and on her three CDs. \$20 plus 2-drink minimum. Doors open 7pm; show at 7:30pm. The York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. Tix: 885-2800.

#### 1015 Folsom

Gus presents "Mass: The Spring Party," the massive T-dance ritual that draws hot guys galore, with DJ Phil B. (Aftershock). \$20. Starts at 6pm sharp. 1015 Folsom St. (at 6th St.). Info: www.gusresents.com

המסיבה הגדולה ביותר

**Mon**

#### SF Jacks @ undisclosed location

"SF Jacks 19th Birthday Party." Enjoy masturbatory merriment with a fellowship of men who like to jack off with like-minded men. Loose, goofy, semi-spontaneous. Jacks provides the space, you call the shots. Mandatory clothes check; j.o. play only. \$7 sliding (NOTAFLOF). Call for time & place: 267-6999

**Tue**

#### New Conservatory Theatre Center

"Buzz!" A drug education theatre performance for middle school students, written and directed by British playwright Andrew Alt. It tells the story of Cally, a teenager bored with life who tries a drug called Buzz. The audience witnesses Cally's reaction and at critical points is invited to advise and assist. Free. 9:30am & 10:45am. 25 Van Ness Ave. Reservations required: 861-4914, ext. 109.

#### Intersection for the Arts

"The Hybrid Project: What If?" Join a room full of people — DJs, dancers, actors, writers, musicians — in this continuing series, starting with fundamental questions, exchanging perspective, language, rhythm, redefining the space between, all with the goal of creating new performance languages. With Colored Ink, Ken Mapp, Eli Marienthal, Gina Dawson. Hosted by Sean San Jose and Joe Lopez. Pay what you can.



Shar Rednaur steams up the Jon Sims Center. See Friday.

8pm. 446 Valencia St. Info: 626-2787.

#### The Stud

Trannyshack presents "An Evening with Varla Mean Merman," featuring the New York drag sensation everyone's talking about (behind her back). Hekina hostesses, DJ Pinky Ring spins, Miss Chocolate greets. \$6. 10pm-3am; show at midnight. 9th & Harrison. Next week: Cricket Bardot.

#### 2202 Oxygen Bar

"SAFE" presents Cara Vida, fresh cabaret stylings, plus cool vibes by host/poet DJ Jamez. No cover. 9pm-795 Valencia St. (at 19th St.).

**Wed**

#### SF Public Library, Harvey Milk Branch

"Lambda Literary Awards Reading." The SF Public Library welcomes Bay Area Lambda Literary Award finalists. Emceed by Kirk Read and Michelle Tea. The prestigious Lambda Literary Award (a.k.a. the Lammys) recognize excellence in gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender literature. Readers include Carol Queen, Justin Chin, Jess Wells, Robert Mainardi, Elena Dykewomon, Brian Bouldrey, Daphne Gottlieb, Ian Phillips, and Sylvia



Vocalist Pilar jazzes up the Plush Room for "A Month of Sundays." See Sunday.

Brownrigg. Come celebrate an award-winning night of gay and lesbian literature! Free. 6:30pm 3555 16th St.

#### Modern Times Bookstore

Sylvia Brownrigg reads from *Pages for You*, a story of first love and sentimental education. New to the literary and sexual mores of East Coast college life, 17-year-old Flannery Jansen is taken aback by her desire for a beautiful, brilliant graduate student and becomes the older woman's protégé. Free. 7:30pm. 888 Valencia St. Info: 282-9246; moderntimesbookstore.com

המסיבה הגדולה ביותר

**Thu**

#### Jon Sims Center for the Arts

LIT@JSC presents "An Evening of Readings by Nona Caspers and Louise Rafkin." Caspers is the author of "The Blessed" (Silverleaf Press) and co-author of "Voyages Out 2," a collection of short fiction (Seal Press). She'll read from her *Dailyness Project*, a fictionalized investigation of the aesthetics of her days in the Mission. Rafkin is author of "Different Daughters" and "Different Mothers" and "Other People's Dirt: A Housecleaner's Curious Adventures (Algonquin Books). Her articles appear

widely. She is a third degree black belt in Poekolan Tji-mindie Tulen. \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8pm. 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th & S. Van Ness). Tix/info: 554-0402.

#### 26 Mix

Future Sound of Urban Rhythm presents a record release party for "Stoned Asia Music Edition 4" featuring the SF debut appearance of Pathaan with their rhythmic chants, ambient grooves and global beats emerging from the post acid-house haze. He has worked with David Bowie, Talvin Singh, and is a regular at circuit events, including Ibiza parties. \$5. 10pm-2am. 21+ w/ID. 3024 Mission St. (at 26th St.). Info: 826-7378.

#### Brava Theater Center

Brava presents vocalist Lila Downs, the daughter of a Mixtec Indian mother and Scottish-American father, a riveting performer who presents world music from indigenous Mexico. \$24 (\$22 students/seniors). 8pm. 2789 24th St. Tix/info: 647-2822; www.brava.org

#### New Langton Arts

New Langton Arts, a gallery/performance space in the Mission, launches the new reading series "Diaspora Poetics" with the West Coast premiere of poet and critic Tan Lin's poetry movie, *Disco M Figure (DMF)*. "Simultaneously a poem and a film, 'DMF' puts a twist on language as it moves from the realm of reading into the realm of the gaze in order to, as Lin puts it, 'get the reader/viewer into a groove.'" \$6 general, \$4 members, students, and seniors. 8pm. 1246 Folsom St. (btwn 8th and 9th sts.). Info: 626-5416.

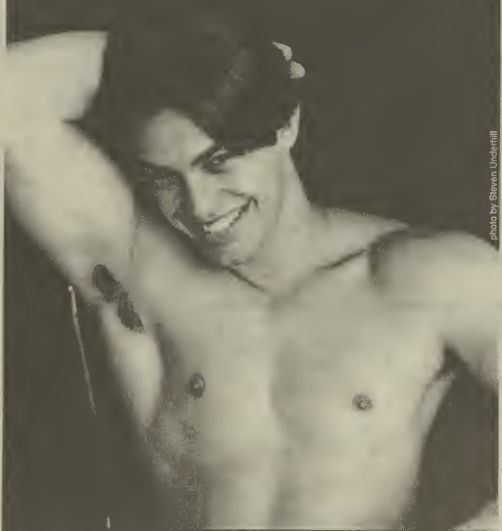
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April 26, 2002 - submissions due for all other Treasures

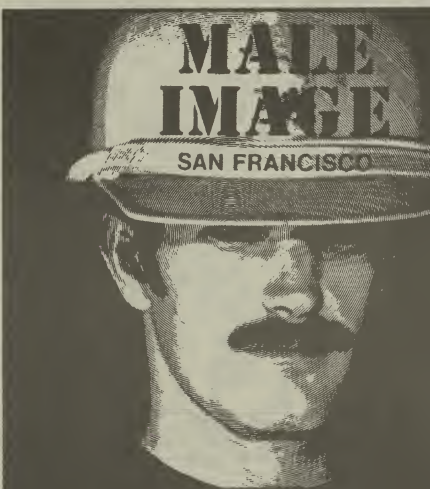
(Poems, essays, stories, photographs, drawings, paintings, video, digital images and other media reflecting your personal experience of aging as a member of the GLBTQ community. Intergeneration collaborations are encouraged!)

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Potlatch, Koret Auditorium, San Francisco Public Main Library  
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Send submissions to: Frank@Pietronigro.com  
P. O. Box 193163, San Francisco, CA 94119-3163  
415.695.9010

Intergeneration is supported by a grant from the San Francisco Arts Commission's Cultural Equity Grants Program, the Castro Street Fair Corporation, a Creating Queer Community Grant, a collaborative project of the Jon Sims Center for the Arts, the Harvey Milk Institute and the Queer Cultural Center funded by the Gateway Initiative of the San Francisco Foundation. Project Founder - Frank Pietronigro



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## West Coast action

### Triumphs in Long Beach and Seattle

by Mister Marcus

The West Coast was the scene of most of the action this past weekend as both Long Beach, California and Seattle, Washington grabbed the spotlight, with the Mr. Pistons Leather 2002 contest in Long Beach and the Washington State Mr. and Ms. Leather contests up in Seattle.

In Long Beach, Mark Malan—with a lot of support from the Black & Tans, OCLA, Avatar, LOBOC M/C and the Los Angeles Boys of Leather not to mention a battalion of volunteers—pulled off the annual Mr. Pistons Leather and Pistons Leather Man 2002.

It was fun judging with Brian Dawson, Hervé Bernard, Jim Dohr, Will Hildreth, Outgoing Pistons Leather Man Jeffrey Cooper, Darrell Moyers and outgoing Mr. Pistons Leather Daniel Vandenberg.

There were four contestants: Dave "Dart" Row, Jeff Toelsin, Dennis Van Slyke and Michael Ziemer, all worthy candidates who thrilled the overflowing Pistons Bar on Saturday night, March 30, after early morning pre-judging and a sumptuous buffet lunch aboard the Queen Mary. The meet & greet at Pistons on Friday saw a huge crowd on hand for socializing, and a handful of 2002 leather title-holders from as far away as Washington, D.C.

Joe Gallagher proved his mettle once more at the master of ceremonies, and managed to throw out a few zingers at some of the more strident spectators. The show moved along at a lively pace, without a glitch, with the speeches, jock wear, leather image and other segments. The suspense in the Pistons patio was at a high pitch.

Jim Raymond was the tally-mater, assisted by Jeff Burnham and Ross and Stephen. The judges' boys kept the scoring squad happy.



Dave "Dart" Row, left, was named Pistons Leather Man 2002, and Jeff Toelsin, right, was named Mr. Pistons Leather 2002. Dart advances to compete at ABW next month, and Jeff competes at IML in May.

When all was said and done, "Dart" Row emerged as the Pistons Leather Man, and will advance to compete for the American Leather Man title in Washington, D.C., and Jeff Toelsin was chosen Mr. Pistons Leather 2002; he will advance to compete at IML in May. Toelsin is a handsome specimen who makes you just want to don a uniform. Yes, he is the current Commander of the Regiment of the Black & Tans, Southern California's premiere uniform club.

It was a great weekend, with a cocktail party just before the contest and a superb brunch on Sunday at Pistons. Bravo everyone! It's also great to hear that the date for the next contest has been changed to November.

#### In Seattle

While all this was going on, further up north, the leather people of Seattle staged Leather Pride Week, culminating in the 20th

Annual Mr. and Ms. Washington State Leather contests at the Cuff.

After the meet and greet on Friday, and the pre-judging on Saturday morning, the contest itself took place on Saturday night, emceed by Frank Nowicki.

During the proceedings, the first ever IML (1979) David Kloss was awarded the National Leather Emerald Award, a much-coveted honor given by the Washington State Mr. Leather Organization. I hear Mr. Kloss was most eloquent in his speech accepting the award and was tremendously moved by the honor, which is well deserved.

The details are sketchy, but know that the extremely handsome Tony Buff was named Mr. Washington State Leather and Ms. Lillia was named Ms. Washington State Leather. They will both advance to the next level of competition.

A few miles northward, the Mr. Vancouver Leather competition was also taking place, with our own Gary Virginia co-em-

next page ►

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

#### Thursday, April 4

Mr. September 2003 will be chosen tonight at the Bare Chest Calendar contest at the Powerhouse, beginning at 2130. Win \$100 cash and experience a painless way of volunteerism.

"BDSM Relationships" is the topic of discussion at Club Eros at 1900 by the Stop AIDS Project. For info, 575-0155 or email to: mlike@stopaids.org.

#### Weekend, April 5 and 6

Alameda County Leather Corps' first annual Alameda Bear Weekend with a "Bears in Boxers" party on Friday and Mr. Alameda Bear contest on Saturday at the Turf Club to benefit Camp Sunburst and the In Memory Foundation. For info surf [www.alamedacountyleather.org](http://www.alamedacountyleather.org).

#### Friday, April 5

Mr. Powerhouse Leather Adam Heller hosts a Black & Blue benefit for the AEF, featuring auction items from Off Ramp Leathers, an \$8 beer/soda bust, and Mr. SF Leather 2002 Peter Jackson. Don't miss it!

"Boot Hard On" night at the Loading Dock, sponsored by Stompers Boots and featuring boot blacks Driller and an assistant. From about 2100 to closing.

Golden Gate Guards MC beer/soda bust at the Lone Star Saloon for \$7.  
2nd Annual Dyke Daddy and Dyke Diva contests at Club 715 Harrison St.

#### Sunday, April 7

A "No Name Event" by Ray Tilton at the Loading Dock, from 1800-2100, to benefit Positive Resource Center.

#### Tuesday, April 9

Bondage Buddies tonight at 933 Harrison. Doors open from 2100-2300, with a \$10 cover and all accoutrements. Call 777-HEAD.

#### Saturday, April 13

Phoenix Uniform Club celebrates its 25th anniversary from 1930 to 2230 at Most Holy Redeemer Church. By invitation only or club overlay.

Cal Eagles day ride to Heller Museum in San Carlos, departs from front of Daddy's Bar at 1000. Bring money for lunch, gasoline, lunch and museum admission (\$8). Call 586-300 or email: [info@caleagles.org](mailto:info@caleagles.org).

#### Sunday, April 14

4th Anniversary of Sundance Saloon at 174 King Street. As is the tradition, it's free. Dance instruction from 1800-1930. The party goes from 1800 to 2300. Congratulations, Ingu!

Pegasus Motorcycle Owners Club run to Bodega Bay and Russian River Area.

The Satyr MC beer bust at Eagle, from 1500-1800.

"A Last Drummer Party" at Daddy's, from 1600-2000, with an \$8 beer bust to benefit AEF & Central YMCA Youth & Seniors Program.



## POLKSTRASSE

## P. St. news &amp; views

by L. James Beales

*La Lips is on vacation this week, so L.J. (which can stand for Lips Jr.), who has on occasion been a ghost writer for the oldest bartender in San Francisco while she was either ill, in Mexico or hung over, is presenting this week's Polk Street bar-crawl news.*

The Polkstrasse has, as chronicled in this column over the last 30 years, a great gay history that should not be forgotten. Some neighborhood people have become celebrities. Take, for example, Ms. Ronnie Lynn, Miss Gay 1977, who mixes it up at the Club Rendez-Vous Saturday and Sunday afternoons. She's been slinging cocktails in many old Polk establishments for decades, and has stories and dirt you have to hear directly from her to appreciate. Visit Ronnie and re-visit old Polk, with music of the '70s and tales of places past: the Gulch, the Maple Leaf and Mama Billy's, to name just a few.

Over at the Lush Lounge on Polk at Post, you'll find a true celebrity, so go in and listen to the tunes of Larry O'Leno tickling the ivories from Thursday through Saturday nights. Kenny will make you a great martini, and Angela is such a sweetheart. Wednesday's *Live at the Lush*, with open mic from nine in the evening to midnight.

The handsome and charming Ron of 'N Touch has a very popular happy hour and tells me to watch out for *Take it Off Sundays* coming in April. This amateur strip contest starts at 10 p.m. and moves from Tuesday to Sundays

in a few weeks. The dance floor here is still the most hopping place on Polk after all these years.

Up on the north end of P. Street at the Cinch, Dribble Puss, aka Sybil Dibble, aka Drag Queen #1, aka Danny Dibble, tries to get away with tending bar on Wednesday and Thursday nights, with afternoon stints on Mondays & Tuesdays. If you get too much of him, or if he gives you too much, then stop in on Mondays when the Saloon does their Trivia Night at 7:30 p.m.

There's a great deli next door run by the very same Bob and Rob who run the Cinch, so fill yourself up with a hearty sandwich before imbibing the famous pints. Of course, the fabulous Woody is still a fixture. Really, he would have to be ripped out of that bar. He's on the plank most afternoons — but be careful, because it's hard to get away once he's snagged you.

## Keep stripping

Here at the Club Rendez-Vous, where Lips still pours it on and on and on, it's *Til Friday* on Friday, April 5, with shows at 10:30 p.m. and Midnight. This week's theme has Cockatielia remembering the nightmares of her youth in *Tila Wonka — Childhood Fantasies*. Scared of that! Also at the 'Vous, the Male Strip Show featuring the Men of Exotica starts at 7 p.m. on Sunday, April 7. Come before 6:30 p.m. to avoid the \$5 cover charge and to get a good seat. Yours truly, L. James, is on shift those Sunday

nights as well as Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at the Club, so come in for some liberating libations and good vibrations.

Happy Birthday to Ms. Golden Gate State Gay Rodeo 2002 Deana Dawn, who celebrates with a hoe-down at Marlena's on Saturday, April 13 from 8 p.m. on. Marlena herself will be on hand for the festivities, so if you haven't

seen Our Grand Lady of Hayes Valley lately, then do go see that 'ho down there.

More April Birthdays to our Polk Street friends: Manhattan aficionado Alan on the 5th, lovely Larry on the 8th, and Manny (What's dat dot?)

on the 17th. Let's not forget (although we try and try) Polk Street denizen Sparkee, who will be shooting back silver bullets on the 13th. He's working downstairs at Kimo's Sunday through Wednesday nights, so go in and buy him a shot. One more won't kill her. Believe me, I keep trying!

At Reflections, morning bartender David Ryan, who makes his tips stretch by spending the money in Thailand, will be celebrating his day on Saturday, April 20. Reflections also has classic Polk Street bartender Charlie Berlanga working Monday and Thursday afternoons — still a hot daddy.

Lips will be back for the next column — if I don't scoop up his job from underneath him while he's away. Lipper: Thank you for allowing me to be in your shoes for a day. They need polishing. Love you, mean it. ▼

## Cocktail Hour

## Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

cee'ing with Ms. World Leather Annie Romano-Blas. Alas, at my deadline, the results had not been forthcoming. Stay tuned.

## Calendar capers

The SOMA Bare Chest Calendar for 2003 is fast coming to a climax. Last Thursday, March 28, the Mr. August 2003 competition took place at the Powerhouse with judges Tom Rodgers, Brock Kolivas, Frank Vasconcellos and Scott Brogan facing four contestants. After the usual debauched dialogue and lots of laughs, Tim Ault was named Mr. August 2003, and Scott Buckley was the runner-up.

Mr. September 2003 will be chosen tonight, Thursday, April 4th at the Powerhouse at 2130. The judges for this competition will be Dennis Silva, Eric Bernier and Werner Tillingner.

## IML update

As of Friday, March 16, the IML 2003 block of rooms at the Hyatt Hotel in Chicago was completely sold out. But do not be dismayed; the hotel has authorized another block of rooms (at \$135 per night), so if you're planning to visit Chicago on Memorial Day weekend, do not delay. The toll-free reservation phone number is 800-233-1234 and be sure to mention the IML rate. If you have any other questions about IML 2003 email to: info@iml.com.

In the meantime, keep living, keep laughing, and keep loving. Just do it in leather. And for leather info from columnists all over the US, be sure to click on [www.L LeatherPage.com](http://www.L LeatherPage.com). ▼



Tony Buff, left, was named Mr. Washington State Leather, and Ms. Lilia was named Ms. Washington State Leather last Saturday, March 30 in Seattle at the Cuff.



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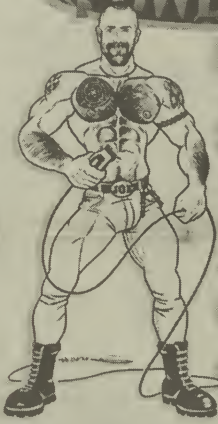
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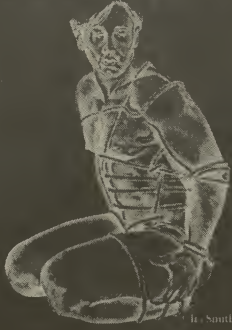
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## PARTING GLANCES

"Rich, Where Art Thou?"

We met in 1999. You: Banker, lived near Frederick Street. Glasses, Gold Gym, short hair cut, born in GA. love to cook beef, asked if I had a girl friend? Love to meet again. Ken near USF. Please call. ☎ 71629

**Macy's Dkrs Fit Rm Sat Eve 3/9**  
I left my jacket in the dressing room. You: very handsome mature man. Me: tall, lean, nice guy. Are you a nice guy? Wanna talk? Cuddle? ☎ 71630

**I'm Open To The Possibilities!**  
Tuesday, March 5- approximately 5:45pm we crossed Fremont Street in opposite directions saying hello. You: attractive man with black hair. I was carrying blue tote bag. ☎ 71631

**Robert: Let's Touch Again!**  
We met and had a body, heart and soul connection at Blow Buddies on June 21. Our cars got mixed up. I want your great body, mustache and mind. Tony. ☎ 71645

**Handsome Asian In Gap Cap 3/9**  
We exchanged glances and smiles going out at the Muni and on Van Ness bus. I was too shy to give my number. Please give me a call. ☎ 71646

**Tony- Buena Vista Park- 9/11**  
Tony- met you at Buena Vista Park on 9/11 about 4pm. I really like the way you kissed- and your eyes- and would love to see you again. Steve. ☎ 71647

**Café's Flore 3/9 Saturday 8:30pm**  
You: dark hair brown eyes. Me: short hair blue eyes. You looked right past my eyes I was going to say hi- but your friend arrived. Date? ☎ 71648

**Jaimie, It's Me Albert!**  
Do you remember me? We met when you were living on Haigh Street. Contact me, been thinking about you. ☎ 71649

**Rick from South Dakota**  
Call your new hairdresser. I didn't get your phone number. ☎ 71661

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**"GWM Looking For LTR**  
45, 5'11", 240, thinning reddish hair w/ponytail and beard. Works out at gym. Likes outdoors. Lives in mountains in Idaho. Looking for someone willing to relocate to area. Jim. ☎ 71632

**Executive Companion Sought**  
Howdy 31yo artistic 5'10"-157lbs light hair, clean-cut German, Scorpio, grn eyes, easy-going, passionate, adventurous looking 2 share good times, hangout, explore SF, outdoors, travel, with older mase, dark featured, professional buddy, not into bar scene. ☎ 71633

**Filipino Men**  
GWM would like to service you. I love to suck deep for a long time. Seeking a casual date. If horny- please call me. Yours ☎ 71634

**\*Asian\***  
GAM, 53yo, 5'7", slim, caring, seeks older GWM for relationship. Enjoy quiet times, cooking, traveling. No smoking. ☎ 71635

**Be Dad's Best Boy!**  
SF dad in ltr wants boy to satisfy unmet needs ongoing. Boy's submissive, oral, 30's/40's, any race, NS. Dad's 5'10", 165#, 55, HIV-, demanding-vanilla to kink to raunch. ☎ 71636

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**Asian Male 40**  
Poz 5'4", 122lbs. companionship, dining out, travel, fun times. Seek W/LB, same or older. Enjoying life. ☎ 71650

**Handsome Masc. Cowboy 4 Masc.**  
Easygoing, goodhearted, nice, masculine, muscular, intelligent, affectionate seeks masculine leanish top man with facial hair, thick mustache/hairy A+ 4 friendship or possibly more. ☎ 71651

**Nice Jewish Boy W/Big Shtick**  
Speak softly but carry a big shtick! 43 look 35, 6'1", 182#, br/gr, clean-shaven, marketing executive, own flat, home cooked meals, naked massage, small hotels, art, swim, hike, hope for wonderful life. ☎ 71652

**Santa Rosa Native**  
SWM, 5'10", 170#, 41, Redhead, ex-navy, owns mobile home. Enjoys drumming, the outdoors, talk radio. Seeks Female. ☎ 71662

**Slim Asian or Caucasian 40-60**  
Quality GWM, 5'9", 130#, 63(looks 50), is attractive, caring, and healthy. We are HIV negative, enjoy JO, and want a lifetime of loving, caring, sharing, and living together. ☎ 71663

**Self-Aware and Sensitive to**  
the needs of others. I am looking for a partner. I am a 54yo GWM, practical and romantic. I am intelligent, sexually bottom. Eclectic interests. I like learning and experiencing. ☎ 71664

**Asian**  
Boyfriend wanted for fun and friendship. Hiking, camping, dinners and...? By retired GWM. ☎ 71665

**Asian Seeks Date**  
Goodlooking, clean-cut masculine GAM 30, 5'8, slim boy next door with nice personality seeks similar goodlooking, masculine clean-cut GWM 40 or younger for friendship, dating etc. ☎ 71666

**Positive on Peninsula 43 years old**  
GWM, 6'2", 205#, Blond, Blue Goatee. Enjoys walks on the beach, movies, time at home, tennis. Looking for LTR with non-smoker, must have a sense of humor. ☎ 71667

**Cute Japanese seeks a Boyfriend**  
5'4", 140#, HIV-, N/S. Loves the beaches, Independent Films, Theaters. You: 30-50, HIV-, gay, bi, straight. Masculine, cuddly, affectionate. Race unimportant. ☎ 71669

## SEEKING ADVENTURE

**Seeking Mature Suck/Fuck Buddy**  
Fun now. Travel summer to Ashland festival. I'll pay hotels, gas, food for three night adventure if we're compatible. I'm attractive 63yo, neg, hung, versatile, NS/ND. ☎ 71637

**Pose For Nude Photos**  
Mature GWM photographer in Oakland looking for in-shape GAM, GHM, GWM for nude, erotic photo models, who also enjoy lots of affection, kissing & oral pleasures. Come for the fun!! ☎ 71638

**Physique Model Seeks Affluent**  
VGL BM, 31, 5'11", clean-cut, smooth, muscular 194 lbs, hung @ 9 1/2", college educated, discreet and fun loving. Seeks affluent man, any age/race for fun and adventure. ☎ 71639

**"On My Knees!"**  
Friendly average older GWM mid 50's HIV- top smoker, 6' 200# looking for friendly endowed cut cocksman 40-60 to orally service. ☎ 71640

**Have Nine Inches of Thick Dick**  
to stretch your asshole. Hot top, 6'4", 190#. Ready to fuck your butt. Minorities welcome. Cocksuckers and rimmers OK. S 71670

**Mature Men**  
WM 45, 6'165lbs. I enjoy being dominated by gentle seniors- alone or in groups-who like oral pleasure. Straight-acting, now-buffed, hairy A+. Kink, raunch ok but S&M, pain, va, gay scene. ☎ 71641

**Straight Smooth Sexy Silian**  
38, 5'8", 160lbs, 31" waist 7"x5"x5" cut shaved balls. Ass squeaky clean & masculine wants to party with hard bodied hung dark skinned studs only. ☎ 71642

**Hot 31 Yo WM Shaved-Head**  
Seeking in-shape WM, under 35, for hot sex, possibly relationship, blond(ish), uncult, unshaved pubic hair, Jewish, all a hard-on plus. ☎ 71653

**Magic Hands**  
I give long, slow, intense, erotic massages. My table, my hands, my place, your pleasure. No formal training. BFs and straights+. Very discreet, versatile and safe. No reciprocation required. ☎ 71654

**White Ass For Latino Cock**  
Seeking Latino tops to fuck my asshole while I'm on my stomach. Me: White, mature, hairy, stocky, talented ass. Your: Latino top HIV- into ass fucking. ☎ 71655

**I Need Be FF CBT SM**  
By experienced slow hands, I am also a very good cocksucker, with a little ass. Live near Sacramento. ☎ 71656

**Service On Regular Basis**  
GWM, 49, 5'11", 145lbs, top, slim, in-shape, loves to get rimmed & fuck, into all races, 30-50y in-shape or slim bottoms, no fats, fems or scat. HIV+ only. ☎ 71657

**Black Video Freak**  
BM into fucking, rimming, fisting, sucking videos. Your place. ☎ 71658

**Shut up and Ride**  
WM 37, 5'10", 195# blond, blue muscular wants goodlooking masculine men to screw, anytime and any place. ☎ 71668

**Fuck my 2 Hungry Holes**  
Hot/Horny GAM seeks nice delicious cock to fill me up. I'm excellent in bed and always cleaned, ready and lubed. GWM + ☎ 71671

**Oral Submission**  
New to bisexuality. Straight mature WM wants to provide oral service on a regular basis to Asian or White mature male. No reciprocation wanted. ☎ 71672

**Mature Man seeks Suck Buddy**  
Inshape WM 6'2", 200#s hung cut cock, big balls seeks younger guy who can orally service on a regular basis. ☎ 71673

**Alpha Wolf howls For Beta Wolf**  
You on your Knees servicing me. You on all fours with me pumping you. Long and hard. Both sweaty. Both Sated. Both satisfied. ☎ 71674

## FETISHES

**Man W/Tee Ring Loves Barefeet**  
Lifelong excitement looking at & fantasizing about men's barefeet. Gdiking East Bay GWM, 5'9", trim, tan, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, licking, massaging barefeet & sensual/safe all over body play. ☎ 71643

**Sub SM BD CBT TT FF WS RIM**  
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**Ball Pig for Worship**  
Masculine, goodlooking, red buzz, 160#s, fit, 34yo WM needs big lowhanging balls to worship. Owner must be masculine, goodlooking, serious and hanging large. Tattoos and skins a plus. ☎ 71676

## OTHERS

**Ltwt NHB Fighter**  
Experienced NHB fighter, 5'8", 142# hairy skinhead, seeking tough sparring buddies. Private gym, ring, grappling gloves available. Real NHB wrestler/fighters only please. ☎ 71644

**Want To Develop A Friendship?**  
Attractive GWM mid 30's seeks friendship with GAM late 30's to early 40's. Open to new ideas and activities. Favorites: restaurants, movies, music performances, museum/gallery shows, work-out and parks. ☎ 71659

**Straight Feet**  
Are you straight but your girlfriend doesn't like to suck your feet or your ass? She too boring? Let me do it. Very discreet! ☎ 71660

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Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

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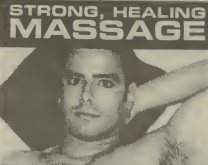
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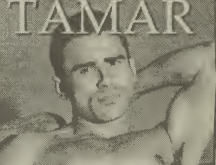
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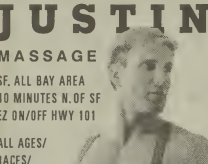
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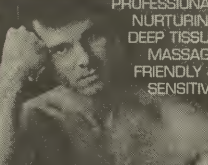
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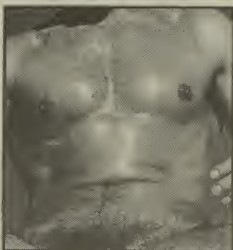
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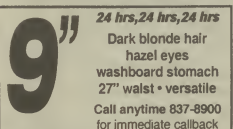
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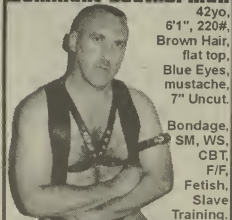
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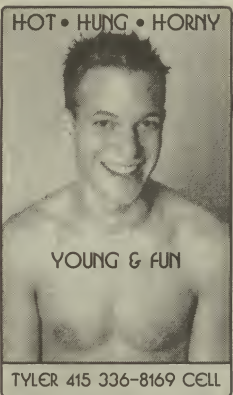
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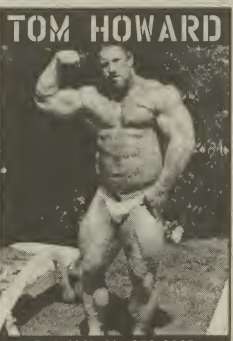
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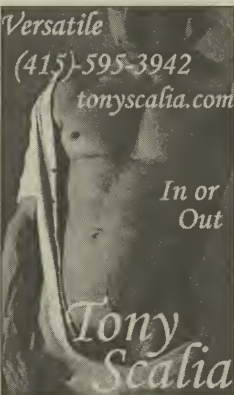
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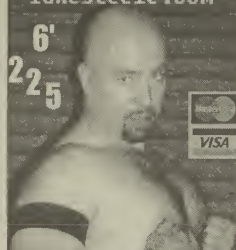
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27" waist • versatile

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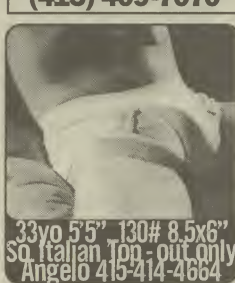
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Handsome tall in low hangers man to  
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## HORNY FRIENDLY DUDE

26, 5'6", 135#, lean, solid  
great tool. Hot and juicy.  
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Hold the onion (breath) hotmeat 24h  
**CHOMP ON THIS WHOPPER**  
Vers, sexy, homedelivery-Out 207-0508

Handsome Gentle Daddy gives  
Erotic Bodyrub. Well Hung age 48  
\$60. Outcalls only. Ken 551-8104

One Excruciating Hour One Great  
Hand Job. Huge SF Bear 6'4" 280#  
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Handsome 26 y/o w/packed shorts  
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Lean, ripped, Athletic Body  
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Kevin 605-5328. Top. In/Out

Smart/Sexy/Preppy/Punk  
**HOT COLLEGE BOY**  
21/blond/green/5'11/155#/Vers  
Call Peter 415-794-4393 or see  
http://www.sexyboysite.com / Out

## •HOT TOP•

Italian 6'2", 200lbs 35 yo, thick fat  
tool, hung 9X6. Smooth and muscu-  
lar. Also available for sensual mas-  
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Hot, hung and ready 4 play  
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Very hot 28 yr old 5'9" 165#  
slim, muscular 8X6 Cut  
hot great butt. Older guys only  
Dave 415-224-0155  
daveytiercalifornia@hotmail.com

\*Handsome\* Masculine\* Hung\* Dude\*  
\*KICKS BACK FOR YOU!\*  
\*5'11" \*175# Br/Gr\* 30's\* 8" Cut\*  
Soma-Days Ok-\$75/in\* Randy-309-1032

## HUNG MUSCLE

Very handsome 5'9", 190lbs of  
ripped muscle. Into all scenes.  
Extra hung and hard tool.  
Friendly masculine. White guy.  
For unhurried service call  
Andre 415-699-3269 24/7

## SIZE-FREAK FOR RENT

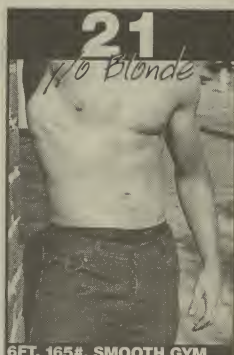
Unnaturally massive endowment at-  
tached to a good-looking guy. Avail-  
able for creative scenes, roleplay,  
gawking or worship. Rent my growing  
genitals as a prop or a plaything. Let  
me-and them-entertain you. They  
need to be the biggest in the world.  
Wanna help? For contact info, go to  
www.MarkoUSA.com

## HOT BLOND BOTTOM BOY

Tall lean muscular w/ 8 thick"  
long legs & round smooth butt  
mild to wild, friendly and fun  
\$100/in/out 415/706-9740 4 you

## BI LATIN DUDE

Sexy, hot, vers. 25yo 5'6" 140#30w  
40c dark, smooth, lean, defined. I like  
to show it. Josh 415-258-7086 Out only

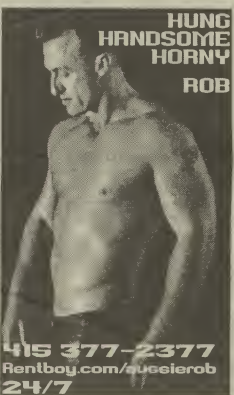


6FT. 165#. SMOOTH GYM  
BUILT AND BEAUTIFULLY  
HUNG

MATT 560-7456 PGR



5'2" Very Handsome  
Blond 29 Kicks Back



415 377-2377  
Rentboy.com/auceierob  
24/7

## BI GRAD STUDENT

Very handsome, preppy, clean-cut  
bi 27, young professional type.  
White, brn/grn, well toned bod.  
Friendly, very well educated,  
into getting serviced only.  
Located mid-penisula, in/out.  
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**MULATTO GUY "9"**  
(415) 775-4771 24-hours

**ADORABLE & SENSUAL  
STUDENT 5'5", 125#,  
24YO, 7" CUT OUT  
CALLS\* BAY AREA ASK 4  
NICK \* 922-9864**

Like the smell & feel of leather?  
Like to service? Take orders? Get  
hosed down? Your butt. My sling!!  
Solid muscular w 9" beauty 6'180 48  
FF BD CBT spanking Derek 207-0381

BRUNO  
CONFIDENT TOP

Handsome, Lean, Muscular  
Defined, Hot Hairy Chest  
9x6  
**WWW.HUNGBRUNO.COM**  
Pager 415 540 9527

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Masculine, discreet, handsome  
9 hung, athletic, muscular, 6ft top  
6'2", 185lbs. lean versatile bottom  
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30 smooth & muscular for massage  
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4/4 - 4/10 only  
Escort/Massage  
In/out 24hrs  
Discreet,  
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you will be satisfied

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SCOTT "GERALD" GUNZ  
OR "GERALD" SCOTT GUNZ  
\$250HR. PRIVATE MUSCLE WORSHIP.  
5'9" 225#. COMPETITIVE BODYBUILDER.  
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29y/o  
5'9"  
175lbs  
11' Uncut  
Hairy  
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leather FF R  
ryker

415-577-0460  
40 5'11" 180  
beginners welcome!

## YOUNG, FUN, SK8R BOY

21 yr old lean & toned Euro-boy, N-2  
a wide range of fun & hot scenes. 145  
lbs. very cute. Mike /pgr#224 5544

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25-cute, spank u very much 725 5805

## FINE FARMBOY!!

24yo hung & smooth very versatile  
brn/brn 5'9", 185# out call Bay Area  
Call David cell (415) 254-4689

## RUSSIAN BOY

21yo, 179lb, 6'1" 7", gr/dark,  
Out only 415 254 5750

"Just Like a Real Date!" "I love u!"  
"You're So Normal!" "That Was Hot!"  
**SWEET A \*\*83% REPEAT**  
Lean, Kinda Hairy/Nasty.  
Butt munchers welcm. Manny.336-3825

## BLK SKINHEAD

31, 5'10", 170# 8" Cut Into all kink/top.  
\$100/out pg. 415-210-1568

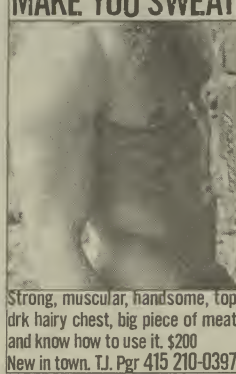
## 11" THICK

Handsome, muscular Italian  
**JOE - 415-776-8481**

## THE ANACONDA

33yr old 5'10" escort 11 1/2" hung  
(510) 684-6196 in/out

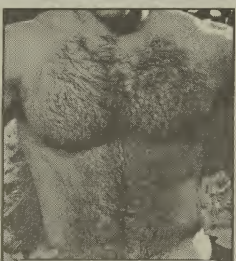
## MAKE YOU SWEAT



Strong, muscular, handsome, top  
drk hairy chest, big piece of meat  
and know how to use it. \$200  
New in town. TJ. Pgr 415 210-0397

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HANDSOME  
BOSTON STUD

9' fatcut  
Brown Hair  
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\$200  
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Memorable • Discrete • Unhurried Service



**TURKISH TOP**  
6'0" • 180# • 10x6 Uncut  
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Available in downtown San Francisco

## 5'11"x195# smooth brn/brn frndly hot

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Italian/Irish w/smoldering good  
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brn/brn, goatee, 8x5, low hangers,  
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## 9X6 24-HOURS

(415) 775-4771 24-hours

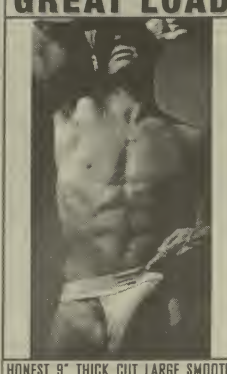
Up late? Need relief? Party pig will  
satisfy. 24h, vers+hung. Out 207 0508

## Nice guys Cum first here!

**SEXY HOT BL/BL BOTTOM**  
34, 5'8", 140, 8" cut,VFN=fun/nice  
Eric, 552-4106 Castro \$120in/\$180 out  
Probably just what you Want!

BB bottom in 60 out Bay Area  
10am 11pm 415 459 3488

## GREAT LOAD



HONEST 9" THICK CUT LARGE SMOOTH  
LOW HANGERS. MUSCULAR LEAN GYM  
BODY. BIG LOAD WHEREVER YOU NEED IT  
MOST. BLONDE, 31YRS, 5'11", 170#,  
XLNT PERFORMER. TOTALLY ACCURATE AD.  
TOP STUD. CALL IAN-3150 OUT-CALLS  
IN S.F. 415.809.0264

## Australian

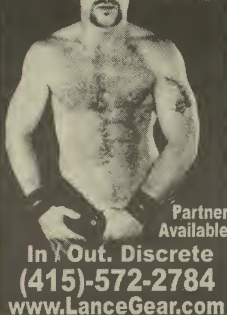
**Peter**

Hung  
Versatile  
Discrete  
In / Out

Partner  
Available  
see ad  
below

(415)-596-7052  
www.RentBoyPeter.com

**Lance  
Gear**



## GENTLE SEXY

SHORT 5'9"

## 20080256

23 y/o, 5'8", 140#

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**9X6\*TOTAL TOP**  
Lean/defined; military, buzz cut  
Marco / 24hrs @ 415 305-2474

Domint\*oral/top\*kicks/back for service  
\*10"X6\*UNCUT\*  
very verbal\*role play\*w/s\*fat tool  
goodlooking\*in or out\*847-3585 \*24hrs\*

## LEATHER TOP!

Light to heavy sensual S/M  
handsome experienced w/dungeon  
**TOM 415-487-1296**

## 14 EEE

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219 6000



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Use FREE code 2160  
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**HORNY STRAIGHT GUYS** 1-900-505-2324 10¢/min. 18+

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Browse, match, chat!

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Call 415-247-2000  
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18+ LISTEN & RECORD FREE!  
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ONE ON ONE OR MORE!  
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Credit Cards 1-888-303-3266  
18yo+ \$2.99 a min

**HOT GUYS 24/7!!!**  
HOT Men are waiting  
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Call 415-247-5555  
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Preview each guy before you decide to connect live!

Try it for  
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Butt Bottoms wanted for FF/toys  
415-752-0971 E12

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Call Days 707-823-3895 E17

Concord GAM luv sucking cock  
Sks 20-40s STD/HIV- G/Bi/BL/W/M  
Pls no overweights 925 671 2704 E04/2002

**LIVE NUDE DILDO DEMO**  
Hot Cub! Private Hr/20 • 208-0078 E14

Body Trim & Shave "Castro Area Location"  
Call 4 appmt \* 626-1168 E18

Bare-Assed Spanking  
Experienced, Safe: 415-929-1185  
[www.daddyhoward.com](http://www.daddyhoward.com) E29

**CASH FOR YOUR STASH!**  
Especially interested in photos and old magazines as well as videos. Call Steve @ 415-621-1188 M-F and/or Patrick @ 415-810-2325 any time to arrange to sell your stuff. Get rich without a glitch! E15

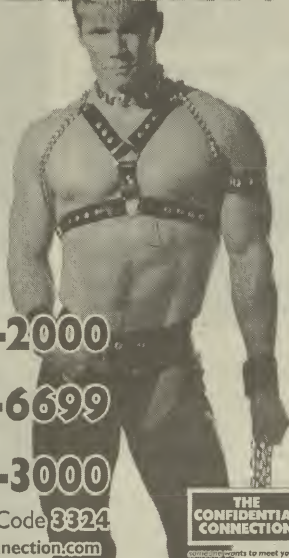
CONGRATULATIONS TO:  
**DADDY DON ANSPAUGH**  
Mr. Leather Los Angeles 2002  
Good luck in Chicago! E14

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THE CONFIDENTIAL CONNECTION  
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To be competitive today an advertiser needs to target his market. Advertisers in the **BAY AREA REPORTER** know exactly the audience they are reaching. They get facts, not guesstimates or promises. The reason we're audited by Verified, a national auditing service respected for over 40 years in the publishing industry. Verified's field and internal audits give our advertisers the facts they need and help us keep our distribution in top shape.

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I'm a sexy TV seeking hot men for video play in Marin County. I enjoy it all! Selena 461-4135 E14

**THE ALAMEDA COUNTY LEATHER CORPS BEAR WEEKEND**  
Friday, April 5, 2002 Underwear Party Saturday April 6, 2002 Mr. Alameda County Bear Competition World Famous Turf Club, 22519 Main Street, Hayward  
Info email: [mrac12001@earthlink.net](mailto:mrac12001@earthlink.net) or [gmatos@PartnershipPH.org](mailto:gmatos@PartnershipPH.org) or [www.alamedacountyleather.org](http://www.alamedacountyleather.org) E14

Outrageous Videos! Scat WS FF, Piercing Cutting. Call Peter (949) 240-2220 \$45 V/MC/AE. E15

San Francisco's #1 Gay Dateline  
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4 foto project-4 more info go to [www.frankphotos.com/tattoo.htm](http://www.frankphotos.com/tattoo.htm) E16

GWM, 44, 6', 150, Beard, seeks GWM for connection. Extended kissing, tit play and mutual massage. 415 558-3020, Ext. 134 E18

Massage, Erotic and more  
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CONGRATULATIONS TO:  
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Pistons Leather Man 2002 and to  
**JEFF TOELSEN**  
Mr. Pistons Leather 2002  
Good luck at ABW and at IML 2002 E15

Concord GAM luv sucking cock  
Sks 20-40s STD/HIV- G/Bi/BL/W/M  
Pls no overweights 925 671 2704 E04/2002

**THE ALAMEDA COUNTY LEATHER CORPS BEAR WEEKEND**  
Friday, April 5, 2002 Underwear Party Saturday April 6, 2002 Mr. Alameda County Bear Competition World Famous Turf Club, 22519 Main Street, Hayward  
Info email: [mrac12001@earthlink.net](mailto:mrac12001@earthlink.net) or [gmatos@PartnershipPH.org](mailto:gmatos@PartnershipPH.org) or [www.alamedacountyleather.org](http://www.alamedacountyleather.org) E14



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- Live Talk
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  - Voice Mail
- 24 Hours  
\$2.00  
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24 hours a day HOT, HUNG MEN  
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Voice-MALE! 18+ Record & Listen  
FREE! Call 415-247-5555  
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Preview each guy before you  
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Body Trim & Shave "Castro Area Location". Call 4 apptmt \* 626-1168

**CASH FOR YOUR STASH!**

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Butt Bottoms wanted for FF/toys  
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Concord GAM luv's sucking cock  
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men**

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CAPS Stop Here ▼

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Display advertising rates  
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Minimum \$10 charge.

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Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Issues \_\_\_\_\_ Classification \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

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SF, CA 94103  
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HEPATITIS A&B...no big deal, right?

Nausea so bad you want to die  
A month away from work.  
No appetite for weeks.  
No sex. No beer, no wine,  
no vodka. No gym.  
Stuck in the hospital.  
Yellow skin. Yellow eyes.  
Fever. Chills.  
And years later...  
some liver damage,  
maybe even death.

## You can prevent all this—so why don't you?

The fact is, hepatitis *is* a very big deal. And men who have sex with men are at greater risk for hepatitis A and B. That's why the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA), as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recommends you get vaccinated to prevent these 2 serious diseases.

**PROTECT YOURSELF!** See your doctor about vaccination today. For referral to a gay-friendly physician near you, call GLMA at 1-877-LGBTDOC or visit our Web site at [www.glma.org/hepatitis](http://www.glma.org/hepatitis)



San Francisco  
Department of  
Public Health

### Adult Immunization Clinic

101 Grove Street (Grove and Polk)  
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San Francisco, CA 94102  
415.554.2625

[www.dph.sf.ca.us](http://www.dph.sf.ca.us)



**GLMA**  
GAY & LESBIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

[www.glma.org](http://www.glma.org)

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